

Nigeria asks to join OIC

FEZ, Morocco (R) — Nigeria has applied to join the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) which is holding its annual foreign ministers conference here this week, officials said Wednesday. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with over 83 million people, an estimated 47 per cent of whom are Muslims which qualifies it for OIC membership. It would be the 23rd African member of the group. Conference sources said the application to become the 40th member was favourably received. A Nigerian delegation is attending the conference as observers. The 45 members of OIC are either Muslim states or have large Muslim minorities. India is the only country with a large Muslim minority which is not a member. There are an estimated 80 million Muslims in India but its application to join was rejected at the founding conference in Rabat in 1969 when Pakistan threatened to walk out if Delhi was admitted.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية اردنية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية الراي

Iraq calls for immediate ceasefire

FEZ, Morocco (R) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Wednesday his country had tabled a resolution at the annual Islamic foreign ministers' meeting here, calling for an immediate ceasefire in the five-year-old war with Iran. Mr. Aziz told Reuters that the resolution, which has not yet come up for discussion, concentrated on a ceasefire and troop withdrawal behind the pre-war border. A return to pre-war borders is one of the three conditions set by Iraq for ending the war which, on the ground, has effectively been at a stalemate for two years. Iran's two other conditions are the removal of the Iraqi government and Iraqi agreement to paying \$200 billion in war reparations. Iraq has repeatedly said it is willing to make peace. Mr. Aziz said on arrival here he would reaffirm at the conference his country's position for a just and honourable peace and ask Islamic ministers to keep up pressure on Iran for a settlement.

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Mubarak meets Abu Taleb

CAIRO (Petra) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak received at Al Oruba Palace on Wednesday Chief of Staff Lt. General Abdul Fattah El-Sisi. Attending the meeting were the chief of staff of the Egyptian armed forces, Lieutenant General Ibrahim Al Qatani, and Jordanian Ambassador in Cairo Hussein Hamad. Lt. Gen. Abu Taleb arrived here Sunday on an official visit in response to an invitation by Lt. Gen. Orabi.

French Socialist leader arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prominent French Socialist Party leader Michel Rocard arrived in Amman on Wednesday on a five-day visit during which he is expected to meet with Jordanian officials, informed sources said. Mr. Rocard is a former agriculture and planning minister who resigned from his post last spring when the Socialist cabinet endorsed a proportional representation electoral system.

U.S. congressmen visit GHQ

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation of U.S. congressmen currently visiting Jordan called at the Army Headquarters on Wednesday and held talks with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. Ronald Marlene, a Republican from Montana, and Hal Damb, a Republican from Nebraska, arrived here on Sunday at the invitation of the World Affairs Council.

Reagan: No date set for 2nd summit

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Tuesday no date had been set for his second summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev but that he had proposed it be held in June. But Mr. Reagan, in his first formal news conference since his Nov. 19 and 20 meeting with Mr. Gorbachev in Geneva, told reporters "someone on the other side" had suggested it be delayed until September.

Craxi to visit Cairo next week

ROME (AP) — Premier Bettino Craxi will visit Egypt to meet with President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo next week, sources at Mr. Craxi's office said on Wednesday. Mr. Craxi will travel to Egypt on Tuesday, the sources said, without giving the itinerary of the trip.

Israel 'plans attack in N. Yemen'

NEW YORK (R) — An American television network said U.S. intelligence analysts believe the Israeli air force may be planning an attack on Palestinian training bases in North Yemen. CBS News quoted the analysts as saying Israeli warplanes with drones had been probing Saudi Arabian airspace along the probable attack route. It said the Saudis had protested about the overflights, but it did not say to whom.

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U.S. allies reject Reagan's call for sanctions on Libya

Combined agency dispatches

U.S. ALLIES in Europe were virtually unanimous on Wednesday in rejecting President Ronald Reagan's call for economic sanctions against Libya for its alleged role in the Dec. 27 attacks at Rome and Vienna airports.

Libya described Mr. Reagan's call for an international boycott of Libya as "tantamount politically to a declaration of war."

Reports from West Germany and Italy said Libya closed its airspace to all foreign flights until further notice.

A senior Soviet official accused the U.S. of practicing "gunboat diplomacy" against Libya and declared Soviet support for the Arab state in resisting "this cynical pressure."

America's European allies, with billions of dollars at stake in Libya and keen to reduce tension in the Mediterranean, looked set to resist President Reagan's call for economic sanctions against Libya.

Official sources in Bonn said West Germany had turned down Mr. Reagan's appeal that the allies ostracize the country he blames for guerrilla attacks at Rome and Vienna airports on Dec. 27.

The sources said the cabinet endorsed a view that sanctions should not be used as a foreign policy measure. An official statement was expected later.

Most West European governments have yet to react formally to Mr. Reagan's call for action following the banning of all

U.S. trade with Libya and an order that all U.S. nationals quit the country.

But officials in European Community (EC) capitals and at the group's Brussels headquarters said they saw little chance of joint European action.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman said there was no change in the British government view "that economic sanctions tend to be ineffective."

EC newcomers Spain and Portugal were the first to come out formally against sanctions which, with annual Libyan trade of some \$12 billion, could seriously hurt

community nations.

Spanish Foreign Ministry spokesman Ignacio Arias said Madrid had received a formal U.S. request to apply measures but replied that "the Spanish government does not favour economic sanctions for political reasons."

Belgian Foreign Ministry spokesman Frans van Daele expressed a view shared by most EC countries that there was doubt sanctions had much effect in the fight against terrorism.

Several EC states have asked for firm proof of Libyan involvement in the airport assaults, which Mr. Reagan declined to detail when he announced the U.S. measures at a news conference Tuesday night.

The Rome foreign ministry said careful investigations were needed before it could accuse certain countries of backing terrorists. It said evaluation of responsibility for terrorism as well as Italy's attitude toward certain

countries should be decided in strict collaboration with other EC members.

Diplomats said Middle East experts from all 12 EC capitals were meeting in the Hague on Wednesday to coordinate the community's reaction.

But there was little prospect of anything emerging beyond a statement condemning terrorism in general terms and without referring to Libya by name.

Mr. Reagan, announcing the measures against Libya, denounced Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi as a perpetrator of criminal acts and a barbarian.

He called on U.S. allies in Western Europe and elsewhere to join in isolating Libya, which he termed "a pariah nation" that had engaged in aggression against the United States and had threatened to take "terrorism" to American streets.

U.S. trade and other ties with Libya have been sharply curtailed in recent years, and the effectiveness of the new U.S. sanctions seemed uncertain unless they receive European support.

Mr. Reagan appeared to acknowledge a general reluctance by Western Europe to follow his lead, because of trade ties with Libya and also a feeling that sanctions were likely to fail.

"They have told us... in the past that the limited actions we had taken earlier were rather ambiguous and maybe that's the new (Continued on page 3)

U.S. firms to sever ties with Libya, page 7

U.S. warns of 'drastic action'

LONDON (R) — The United States, in a new warning to Libya, said Wednesday that if more Americans were killed by terrorists it would hunt down those responsible and take "drastic action."

The warning came on the heels of President Reagan's announcement at a news conference Tuesday night of an almost total U.S. economic boycott of Libya.

White House spokesman Larry

Speakes linked the latest statement on terrorism to a fresh appeal to America's Western allies to follow Mr. Reagan's lead in taking action against Libya.

Speakes said: "I can assure you that if Qaddafi strikes again and Americans are involved (killed), the United States will be prepared to hunt down and take drastic action against those responsible."

If we can find them, we will get them."

Reagan reaffirms U.S. policy on PLO

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Reagan has reaffirmed U.S. policy of refusing to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and said it was impossible for the PLO to take part in peace talks until it recognized Israel.

But he said "there has to be a solution" to the problem of those Palestinians who were refugees in such countries as Lebanon.

He said the United States would not deal with the PLO until it recognized Israel's right to exist under United Nations' Resolutions 242 and 338 which call for acceptance of Israel in return for its withdrawal from occupied territory.

Following is the full text of Mr. Reagan's comment on Tuesday on the Palestinian problem:

"The peaceful way is the thing we've been trying to promote, the idea of peace between the Arab states and Israel. And we have emphasized from the very first that the problem of the Palestinians must be a part of any solution."

"But I would like to point out that the Palestinians — virtually every Arab country has thousands and thousands of Palestinians. In fact, some of them, they're practically a majority of their population. So they are in a number of countries, and in many of these countries they are not made citizens of those countries. They're allowed to live there and so forth, but they don't have passports. They don't have all of the privileges that a citizen of the country would have. And there has to be a solution, particularly — we're not talking about all of those; they seem to be content with where they're living — but those that became refugees, the great refugee camps that we found in Lebanon. Those are the ones that are literally people without a country, and we think there has to be a solution found for them. The reason that we have not approved the dealing with Arafat and that sect, the PLO, is because, how could they sit in a peace conference when they deny the right of Israel to exist as a nation and have refused to endorse or support the or accept the two resolutions, 242 and 338 of the United Nations?"

Palestinians prevent Israeli team from entering Haram Al Sharif

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Hundreds of Palestinians on Wednesday prevented an Israeli parliament delegation from entering the Haram Al Sharif area in Jerusalem and the two group exchanged blows near Al Aqsa Mosque.

Police rushed to the scene, whisked away the Israelis in vans and sealed off the area. Witnesses quoted by the AP said police fired warning shots in the air and used tear gas to break up the crowd.

Eight Palestinians were treated for the effects of tear gas and released from hospital.

Reuters later reported that hundreds of angry Palestinians congregated in the ancient alleys around the mosque, burning a tyre and stoning anyone who approached.

Police locked the gates around the site in the heart of Old Jerusalem.

According to the Israeli version, the incident started after ten members of the parliament's interior committee visited the scene

to investigate complaints by ultra-religious Jews that Muslim authorities had erected an illegal structure. Other reports said there were over 35 people in the Israeli team.

Witnesses said an appeal was broadcast in Arabic over the Aqsa loudspeakers urging Muslims "to save Al Aqsa." Within minutes hundreds of Palestinians had congregated.

An editor of the Palestine Press Service said the Palestinians believed there might be a campaign by Jewish settlers to take over the area.

He said the head of the Islamic Council, Sheikh Saadeddin Alami, said he had no advance notice of the visit by the Israeli delegation.

The press service said Sheikh Alami sent a protest cable to Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres. The protest said the clash began when members of the Israeli delegation began praying near the Islamic holy site.

A guard hit members of the Is-

raeli delegation with a billy club to try and disperse them, the press service said.

The cable sent to the prime ministry by Sheikh Alami said: "I strongly deplore the intervention by the police, the sealing off of gates to the mosque, the confiscation of the mosque key, the beating up of our guards and the entry of the army to the area."

I protest all these actions and demand the immediate return of the keys to the mosque," said the cable.

Wednesday's incident occurred one day after Jordan issued an appeal for immediate world action to protect holy sites in the occupied territories.

The appeal, issued by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, called on world nations and international organizations to take immediate action to end Israeli attempts at obliteration of Islamic and other holy places in the occupied Arab territories.

Spain to go ahead with Israeli ties

MADRID (R) — Spain will go ahead with plans to exchange ambassadors with Israel this year despite rising tension in the Middle East, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

"Our decision to establish diplomatic ties with Israel is independent of the current tension in the Middle East," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

He said the exchange of ambassadors would take place in the first half of this year, as announced on New Year's Day by Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez.

Spain is the only West European nation not to have formal relations with Israel.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi said Tuesday that Spain had a right to establish ties with Israel, but this could have a "negative effect on its excellent relations with the Arab World."

Interviewed in Fez by Spanish state radio, Mr. Klibi said he would lead an Arab delegation to Madrid in March to "explain the gravity of the decision to establish diplomatic relations with Israel."

Gemayel faces ultimatum over militia peace pact

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's Justice Minister Nabih Berri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal militia, has issued an ultimatum to President Amin Gemayel and fresh fighting erupted among the three main militias and the army.

Rival Christian leaders were heading for a showdown over the country's Syrian-sponsored militia peace pact.

Mr. Berri issued a "last warning" to the president Tuesday night to accept the Syrian-backed accord to formally end Lebanon's civil war.

As Saffir newspaper said a three-way struggle had split Lebanon's Christian community over the agreement, signed 12 days ago.

The newspaper said the Christian leadership was divided between Mr. Gemayel's supporters, "Lebanese Forces" militia commander Elie Hobeika who signed the pact, and Mr. Hobeika's hardline chief of staff, Samir Geagea.

Mr. Hobeika warned Dr. Geagea last week his opposition to the pact was a "declaration of war," As Saffir said.

The independent An Nahar said a tug-of-war among Christian leaders had developed ahead of what

it said was a planned visit to Damascus by Mr. Gemayel at the weekend. He met Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad last week to discuss the peace agreement.

Meanwhile militia snipers duelled across Beirut's dividing green line on Wednesday as gunners fought artillery battles with army units loyal to President Gemayel southeast of the capital.

Police said seven people were wounded in the dusk-to-dawn fighting that strained the armistice agreement.

The green line skirmishes centred mainly at the bomb-shattered old commercial district in downtown Beirut. Police said two civilians were wounded there.

The artillery battles raged around the mountain top garrison town of Souq Al Gharb, which commands the roads from Lebanon's central mountains to Mr. Gemayel's presidential palace in Baabda, eight kilometres east of Beirut.

The Syrian-Lebanese summit last week was the 10th since Mr. Gemayel became president in 1982. Sources close to Mr. Gemayel said the talks were successful, but so far he has not given the pact his outright support.



KING LEAVES FOR BRITAIN: His Majesty King Hussein, who left for Britain on a private visit on Wednesday, is seen off by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (second from right), Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi (to Prince Hassan's left), Court

Minister Adnan Abu Odeh (right), Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and senior officials. Before the King's departure Crown Prince Hassan was sworn in as Regent (Petra photo)

Crown Prince warns against continuation of Mideast situation

By Lamis K. Andoni, Salameh B. Ne'matt and Rana Sabbagh Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan warned on Wednesday that a continuation of the political status quo in the Middle East will lead to the intensification of ethnic and extremist groups and the Balkanisation of the region.

Speaking on the second and final day of a seminar held at the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), Prince Hassan also warned that "the historic moment (for peace) may have been lost forever."

Commenting on papers presented at the seminar, Prince Hassan questioned U.S. credibility in the region. "Is a change possible?" he asked. "It's the U.S. push me-pull-you politics. No sooner things are put in context, we are surprised to find a fall-back in the (U.S.) position," he said.

Expressing disappointment with U.S. response to Jordan's peace overtures, Prince Hassan said His Majesty King Hussein "represented a continued and endless process of involvement in peace efforts for the better part of the last three decades, with successive U.S. administrations."

"Where did that lead us?" he asked. He said that there was no adequate American response to the Kingdom's peace efforts.

The Crown Prince told the sem-

inar, which is organised by the ATF and the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), that Jordan staunchly supports the convening of an international Middle East peace conference. However, he said, "we do not expect the conference to solve deadlocks but we hope it won't be a symbolical and a vain venture." He said Jordan hoped, in the event of convening such a conference, that there will be "more concentration on the committees' side which could lead to something better than what we did in the past."

Prince Hassan told the seminar that the need for a regional concept for peace has been a constant factor in the peace-making process. He called for a policy of consensus rather than bilateral agreements "given the differences between parties within the same camp."

Presenting a paper at the morning session on "The Dimensions of American Foreign Policy in the Middle East," Dr. Robert Pranger, vice president for external affairs and director of international programmes at AEI, outlined the main factors which shape American policy in the Middle East and provided an analysis of the "historical evolution" of this policy. He said American policy in the Middle East is three-dimensional and consequently it can be seen as "three policies" combined.

According to the paper, American policy in the Middle East is international, regional, and domestic in orientation. These three dimensions, however, coincide but not necessary harmonise, the paper said. Dr. Pranger gave an in-depth analysis of these three dimensions and the way they interact and even conflict with each other.

But prior to exploring the three dimensions Mr. Pranger reviewed the European legacy of American foreign policy in the Middle East. His main argument was based on the premise that the United States, which became actively involved and interested in the Middle East only after World War II, has "found itself ensnared in a policy not from its own making: The Arab-Israeli conflict."

Thus, when the old European imperial powers lost influence after World War II they left an already deeply entrenched and complicated conflict unresolved, and the United States, the new superpower, found itself forced to deal with this heavy legacy.

In Dr. Pranger's view, the fact that the United States inherited the Middle Eastern conflict from the European powers and had nothing to do in its creation has so far hampered the evolution of American foreign policy in the Middle East and has even constituted a constraint factor on the development of this policy.

(Continued on page 2)

Israeli soldiers close Al Najah campus

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Israeli soldiers wielding guns and tear-gas canisters shut the West Bank's largest Palestinian campus on Wednesday, a day after a pro-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) student council was elected.

A military source said the suspension of classes for Al Najah university's 3,200 students, the second closure in less than a month, would last 24 hours and was to prevent "nationalist activities."

An army corporal at a roadblock near the hilltop campus some 60 kilometres north of Jerusalem told a reporter that classes would resume on Thursday "if they (students) behave."

University spokesman Saeb Erakat told the Associated Press no political rallies had been scheduled for on Wednesday, and called the Israeli decision to close the university "nonsense."

"Nobody was planning anything. Everyone here is sick and tired of rallies and the students planned to devote the day to cleaning the campus of campaign material," Mr. Erakat said.

Mr. Erakat said Al Najah students have lost about six months of classes since 1984.

Egypt rejects allegations over policeman's death

CAIRO (Agencies) — Cairo Radio on Wednesday dismissed as "a torrent of lies" claims in some Arab newspapers that Egypt and Israel were behind the prison death of a former border policeman convicted of killing seven Israeli tourists.

A radio commentary described former Sgt. Suliman Khater, who the Egyptian government said hanged himself on Tuesday in his prison hospital room, as "an ordinary Egyptian who committed an ordinary crime and was punished for it but decided to take his own life."

Newspapers in several Arab countries lauded Khater as a hero for killing the Israelis at his border post in the Sinai peninsula last October and accused the Egyptian and Israeli governments of murdering him.

Khater, 25, was sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labour on Dec. 28 for the fatal shooting of the Israelis.

"But Arab media, particularly some Kuwaiti newspapers, turned the last chapter of Khater's life into a political drama, full of malicious lies, alleging a Zionist conspiracy to get rid of him and carrying a torrent of lies," the radio said.

"If these newspapers had any sense of honour, they would not have stooped as low as to accuse 'Egypt of killing Khater,'" it added.

Egyptian students on Wednesday demanded "vengeance" for Khater's death.

Some 500 students at Cairo's Al Azhar university took to streets shouting anti-government slogans

VIENNA (R) — Austrian police have identified the man who briefed the three gunmen involved in last month's attack on Vienna airport and said he also travelled on a Tunisian passport, an Interior Ministry spokesman told Reuters Wednesday.

But they have no trace of his They discussed the possibility of

The newspaper said they would be armed with Heckler and Koch submachine-guns and would be sent to Heathrow, one of the world's busiest airports, as soon as

CAIRO (R) — U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Nicholas Veliotis is resigning for personal reasons and not because of rows with Washington or Cairo, a U.S. embassy spokesman said Wednesday.

Mr. Velotes was criticized here for calling the hijackers of the Achille Lauro, an Italian liner, "sons of bitches" in an angry outburst after hearing an American had been killed.

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish Cypriots will not press for recognition of their breakaway state at the current annual meeting of Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) foreign ministers in Morocco, diplomats and Turkish Cypriots said Tuesday.

Only Turkey has recognised the breakaway state declared in the northern third of Cyprus in November 1983. U.N. efforts to establish a bi-communal federation on the Mediterranean island have so far proved fruitless, although low level talks between Greek and Turkish Cypriots and U.N. negotiators have continued. The United States in its relations with the Turkish-Cypriot state at least has not taken a position, although it was aware of the reality in Cyprus.

Mr. Denktash has said in the past that American pressure has forced at least two Islamic states to step back from recognising the north.

(Continued from page 1)

The second dimension is the regional dimension in which the Israeli factor, due to the strong American support to Israel and the cultural and political identification between Israel and the United States, has been playing the most powerful role. The Israeli factor gains more importance due to its strong domestic reflection in the American society represented by the Zionist movement. The American sympathy and com-

"The issue for leaders who want to negotiate peace is how to shape that political process," he said. "Prudent policymakers will sit

"At best," Dr. Abu Jaber said, "it is a dangerous gamble to those aware of Israel's record in the Middle East, her present tools and capabilities and future ambitions." The closing session, expressed hope that this dialogue "will be the beginning of further substantive information and informatics." among Arabs and Americans.

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli official alleged to have headed a secret unit that hired accused American spy Jonathan Pollard has been nominated for a new job, a spokeswoman for Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon has said.

Newspaper reports last November said Rafael Eitan, an anti-terror adviser to former Prime Ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, headed the office that hired the U.S. Navy analyst to supply Israel with intelligence secrets.

NICOSIA (AP) — A French delegation headed by Jaque Martin, a special envoy of the French government, has left Tehran after four days of talks on repayment of French debt to Iran, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

IRNA, monitored here, quoted Mehdi Navab, Iran's deputy minister of economic and financial affairs, as saying the two sides agreed to resume the talks on their financial dispute within a month.

The dispute is over a \$1.5 billion loan granted by Iran's Org-

Iran insists that the French government had guaranteed the loan and that it now must be repaid with interest. Repayment of the loan is one of Iran's conditions for improving strained relations between the two countries.

JORDAN TELEVISION

[illegible]

TODAY'S EVENTS

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A painting exhibition by Khalid Kharis at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until Jan. 9).

* An exhibition of contemporary Egyptian art at the Jordan National Art Gallery (until Jan. 10).

FEATURE FILM

* "Sound of Music" at 5:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

VIDEO

* Video dramatique "La Vase et la Madone" at 4:00 p.m. Thursday at the French Cultural Centre.

SEMINAR

* A documentary film seminar: "Evening on German Television" at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the Goethe Institute.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 66126/7
 American Centre 664371
 American Centre Library 661520
 British Centre 636147/8
 French Cultural Centre 637009
 Goethe Institute 641193
 Soviet Cultural Centre 642403
 Spanish Cultural Centre 623408
 Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
 Hays Arts Centre 665195
 Hussein Youth City 667181
 W.L.C.A. 641793
 Y.W.C.A. 664251
 American Memorial Library 636611
 University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum Jewellery and costumes over 20 years old. Also mosaics from Malaba and Jerash (4th to 18th c. years). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Yearly.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries in the collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916, Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7.30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibeh, 637440.

De la Sagesse (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 625341.

Assiqli Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771531.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 771751.

PRAYER TIMES

05:13	Fajr
10:30	Dhuhr (Sunrise) Tahajjud
11:43	Dhuhr
14:20	Asr
16:48	Maghreb

QUEEN ALIA

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:35	Kuwait (RI)
09:40	Muscat, Dubai (RI)
09:45	Abu Dhabi (RI)
09:45	Aqaba (RI)
09:45	Cairo (RI)
09:45	Jeddah (RI)
09:55	Dhahran (RI)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RI)
10:05	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
14:30	Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
14:35	Muscat, Dubai, Bahrain, Lamma (GF)
16:15	Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IA)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	Cairo (RI)
17:50	London, Belgrade (RI)
17:55	Jeddah (RI)
18:00	Amsterdam, Istanbul (KLM)
21:15	Zurich, Lamma (RS)
21:30	Cairo (MS)
00:25	Baghdad (IA)
00:35	London, Baghdad (BA)

DEPARTURES

06:45	Dumanaq, Frankfurt (LH)
06:45	Dumanaq, Athens (OA)
07:30	Dumanaq, Paris (AF)
08:00	Beirut (MEA)
11:00	Vancouver, New York (RI)
11:30	Athens (RI)
12:00	Paris, London (RI)
12:15	Brussels, Frankfurt (RI)
12:30	Riyadh, Dhahran (RI)
13:05	Cairo (RI)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
15:35	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	Baghdad (IA)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	Kuwait (KU)
20:00	Dumanaq (RI)
20:10	Baghdad (RI)
20:15	Jeddah (RI)
20:45	Cairo (RI)
21:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RI)
21:30	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RI)
00:05	Cairo (MS)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

- Akademik Guber
- Lusaka Malapala
- Aboudy
- Banglar Kiron
- Sides Trader
- Kota Selati
- Actuaris
- Lavender
- Barmaissa

Amn Kavar and Sons Company, Tel. 6221334-9 at your service.

WEATHER

supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The sky will be partly cloudy with westerly moderate winds. Scattered showers are expected in the northern region. In the Gulf of Aqaba the winds will be northerly and rough seas.

Anman	5/12
Amman	10/20
Desert	4/13
Jordan Valley	7/18

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 15, Aqaba 21; Humidity readings: Amman 53 per cent, Aqaba 42 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Wednesday rates

Local sell/buy rates in fitt

Bahraini dinar	970	977
Qatari guilder	132.7	133.8
Egyptian pound	210	215
French franc	48.8	49.2
Iraqi dinar	329	339
Japanese yen (for 100)	181.5	183
Kuwaiti dinar	1268	1276
Lebanese lira	19	22
Omani rial	1058	1066
Saudi riyal	100	102
Saudi riyal	100	102
Swedish crown	48.3	48.7
Swiss franc	176.3	177.7
Japanese yen	26	27
UAE dirham	99	101
U.K. sterling pound	526.5	530.7
U.S. dollar	365.8	368.9

EMERGENCIES

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
 Amman civil defence 198, 199
 Civil Defence Airbird 271293, 273151
 Civil Defence Quesada 710733
 Ambulance 193, 775111
 Amman downtown fire brigade 198
 First aid 630341
 Blood bank 778303
 Civil Defence rescue 661111
 Fire headquarters 622090-3
 Police rescue 192, 622111, 637777
 Police headquarters 639141
 Traffic police 893191
 Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881
 Municipal water complaints 771125/8
 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53330-60

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 8138113/2
 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
 Akilieh Maternity, J. Amman 624461/2
 Jarrah Amman Maternity 642362
 Mallouk, J. Amman 643610
 Palestine, Shureibat 664171/4
 Shureibat Hospital 669131
 University Hospital 845845/6
 Al-Musader Hospital 65727/9
 The Islamic, Abdali 666137
 Al-Ahli, Abdali 66416/6
 Italian, Al-Mutajireen 777101/3
 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775112/6
 Army, Marka 891611/3
 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
 Dr. Ali Zmeili 667753
 Dr. Mohamad Ali Azam 894184
 First pharmacy 661912
 Al Salam pharmacy 636730
 Hala pharmacy 778922
 Al Ekhlis pharmacy 661858
 Saleh pharmacy 666026
 Bushnah pharmacy 630993
 Sakkid pharmacy 655266

TAXIS:
 Al Hamra taxi 641183
 Al Ashi taxi 621127
 Bassem taxi 811887
 Tareq taxi 623024
 Khaloud taxi 664888
 Razin taxi 635995

IRBID:
 Dr. Youssef Jallafah 276315
 Razi pharmacy (—)
 Asya pharmacy (—)

ZARQA:
 Dr. Youssef Abu Sa'ad 983063
 Alaa Sharah pharmacy (—)
 Al Aqsa pharmacy (—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/9
 Radio Jordan 774119/9
 Ministry of Tourism 642311
 Hotel contacts 664112
 Price complaints 661176
 Telephone information 12
 Jordan and Middle East calls 10
 17
 Rapid service 11

(Fixed prices for imported produce)

(Fixed prices for imported produce)			
Upper-tower price in fto. per kg.			
Apple	250	Dates	650 / 550
Beet	130 / 100	Garlic (with leaves)	300 / 280
Carrot (yellow)	180 / 140	Garlic (without leaves)	480 / 400
Chestnut	700 / 600	Onion (dry)	180 / 140
Coconut (each)	600 / 500	Sage (green)	350 / 300
09:35	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	07:30	Aqaba (RJ)
09:45	Jeddah (RJ)	18:15	Cairo (MS)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)	11:00	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
09:45	Aqaba (RJ)	11:30	Verona, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
10:40	Damascus (RJ)	12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:05	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)	12:30	Istanbul (RJ)
13:05	Kuwait (RJ)	12:30	Larnaca (RJ)
15:10	Jeddah (SV)	13:00	Larnaca (RJ)
16:05	Larnaca (RJ)	13:30	Doha, Muscat (GF)
17:30	Cairo (RJ)	13:30	Cairo (RJ)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)	14:00	Kuwait (RJ)
17:55	London, Paris (RJ)	16:40	Kuwait (SV)
18:05	Aden, Damascus (OA)	18:20	Baghdad (TA)
18:10	Frankfurt (RJ)	19:20	Riyadh (RJ)
19:30	Istanbul (RJ)	19:40	Kuwait (RJ)
20:25	Baghdad (TA)	19:45	Dhahran (RJ)
01:50	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)	19:45	Doha (RJ)
01:50	Baghdad (RJ)	20:20	Dubai, Kuwait (RJ)
01:40	Belgrade, Istanbul (TU)	20:45	Cairo (RJ)
DEPARTURES			
06:30	Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)	21:15	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:40		21:20	Baghdad (RJ)
06:50		21:30	Istanbul (RJ)

NEWS IN BRIEF

ASMO chief leaves for N. Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — The secretary general of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (ASMO) Mahdi Hannoush left Amman Wednesday on a five-day visit to North Yemen. Dr. Hannoush will meet with the North Yemeni Minister of Industry and National Economy and discuss the possibilities for cooperating in standardisation and metrology field and strengthening the specifications department in North Yemen. Dr. Hannoush is also scheduled to pay a similar three-day visit to South Yemen.

Biology laboratory seminar ends

IRBID (Petra) — A 10-day training course on the use of laboratories and maintenance equipment for supervisors and teachers of biology in the Arab World concluded here Wednesday. The course was organised by Yarmouk University in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the International Union of Biological Sciences. The course aimed at acquainting participants with modern approaches in the teaching of biology and improving teaching standards through the use and proper maintenance of laboratory equipment. The course included a field study for the marine life in Aqaba and a scientific tour to the wild life reserves of Al Azraq and Al Shomari.

Karak plans Arbor Day festivities

KARAK (Petra) — Arbor Day celebrations in Karak governorate will last four days starting Jan. 25, according to Karak Governor Salem Al Qudah. He said that schools, government departments, local organisations and the private sector will take part in tree-planting celebrations and will plant 11,400 tree saplings around 44 schools, along streets and public squares. The trees, he said, will be planted on an area estimated to be 2,000 dunums of land.

Two village councils to be upgraded

AMMAN (Petra) The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has decided to transform the village councils in two towns into municipalities. One of these will be at Tibneh in the Koura district which will be supervised for the time being by a committee led by Mr. Salih Nassar, the district's assistant governor, and the other town where a new municipality will be set up is Al Jadideh in the Karak governorate. A committee led by Abdul Hamid Al Tameimat will supervise the work of the municipality. A technical team from the ministries of municipalities and finance will make field trips to both towns for defining their boundaries, as spokesman for the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs said.



Her Majesty Queen Noor opened an Iraqi exhibit, held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman to mark the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi armed forces (Petra photo) shown here viewing Iraqi traditional products at the

Prime Minister Rifai opens new AHSF library, research centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai inaugurated the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's (AHSF) public library, bank of information and a cultural centre on Wednesday at the foundation's headquarters in Shm-eisani.

In a speech at the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Rifai paid tribute to the AHSF for its efforts to promote cultural projects that serve the society and the nation as a whole. The library, the information bank and the cultural centre are fresh manifestations of the foundation's contributions to the country's advancement in science and culture in this modern age, the prime minister said.

He also paid tribute to the role which the foundation plays in commemorating a great man who made major contributions towards the development of Jordan through his various enterprises.

Mr. Rifai announced that the foundation has decided to set up a "conference palace" in Amman to be named after Abdul Hamid Shoman and a large public library on Independence Street on a 94-dunum area for holding regional and international conferences.

Also speaking at the inauguration ceremony was Mr. Abdul Majid Shoman, the AHSF's chairman of the board of

directors, who outlined to the audience the foundation's achievements on the Arab and regional levels, and its role in promoting scientific research to benefit national development.

The new library hopes to help to spread knowledge and culture among the members of the public and thus complement the work of schools and universities, Mr. Shoman added.

The new library provides books for reading, public lectures, and facilities for organising art exhibitions, and it also helps to arrange training courses in specialised subjects, Mr. Shoman explained.

Cabinet to expand effort to reclaim eastern lands

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has decided to expand and survey operations of lands lying in the eastern regions of the Kingdom for the purpose of reclaiming them for cultivation.

A cabinet statement said that Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai instructed the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Department of Lands and Survey to increase the number of teams employed for surveying these lands in order to accomplish the work as soon as possible. These lands lie at Suwayn plains, Al Mudawwara and Raida, the statement added.

According to the statement, these lands will be leased to companies and corporations wishing to cultivate them for the purpose of producing cereals, and fodder and increasing animal husbandry for on a long-term basis (at least 15 years) in return for nominal lease fees. The measure is being taken for the purpose of increasing cereal production for local consumption and obtaining different dairy products and meat, the statement explained.

The statement added that the government will purchase the produce of these lands, especially cereals and grain for rewarding competitive prices, and will continue to extend support to the agricultural sector for the purpose of

ensuring food security in the country.

The statement said that more than 100,000 dunums of land lying in the eastern regions of Jordan have already been surveyed prior to their reclamation and cultivation.

The statement noted that this area will be doubled by the end of 1986.

National Narcotics Committee formed

The cabinet also decided to form a national committee for combating narcotics, which will be charged with defining the problem of drugs in Jordan by conducting field studies. This committee, will also be entrusted with working out a plan for combating the spread of drug trafficking and abuse and submitting recommendations in this respect.

According to the statement the committee also will be charged with taking measures for protecting society from drug addiction and following up international research on the re-

habilitation of drug addicts. The statement said that the committee will include representatives of the ministries of Health, Interior, Education, Information, Social Development, Finance and Youth, as well as Jordanian universities, the Arab Bureau for Combating Narcotics and the private sector.

The Health Ministry will issue specific regulations for organising the committee's work, according to the cabinet statement.

On Monday, the anti narcotics authorities destroyed large amounts of drugs found in Jordan during 1985. More than 416 kilograms of hashish and opium and six kilograms of heroin were found and 461 people were apprehended either for drug use or trafficking with the illicit goods, according to Col. Hashem Al Qaisi, director of Anti-Narcotics Bureau at the Public Security Department.

He said that the last haul of drugs that went up in flames at the Jordan Cement Factory's kilns on Monday had been confiscated from 99 persons who took the drugs and 122 traffickers.

According to the Public Security Department more than 60 per cent of drug smokers and addicts or smugglers are non-Jordanian nationals.

AACC turns in its first profitable year

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Air Cargo Company (AACC), a joint Jordanian-Iraqi venture, made a net profit in 1985 of JD 250,000, its first profit-making year since its establishment in 1982, AACC Director General Ghassan Ali announced Wednesday.

He said that the company earned a total revenue of \$11.3 million in 1984 rising to \$16.7 million in 1985, with operational hours rising in 1985 by 35.6 per cent over those of 1984. The company reduced its staff by 20 per cent during the past year in order to improve efficiency.

AACC transported last year a total of 21,200 tonnes of different items of goods to and from Amman and Baghdad, most of which were foodstuffs and items needed for the requirements of economic development in both countries, Mr. Ali pointed out.

Mr. Ali said that in 1985 the company laid down a sound basis for its regular operations and in 1986 the company will move to a new phase, during which it will replenish and bolster its fleet and

expand its networks to include not only Iraq and Jordan but other Arab countries as well.

AACC has conducted a detailed study for enlarging the volume of its air fleet and selecting the most rewarding types of aircraft, and the company's board of directors will soon take a decision on this subject, Mr. Ali announced.

He said the AACC faces a problem because of its aging fleet of Boeing 707 planes, which European nations are expected to ban from landing at their airports by 1988 due to new noise limitation standards. The AACC will be forced for this reason to replace their fleet in order to continue operations.

At present the company is involved in devising a programme for the purchase of new planes, and has already worked out a marketing plan for 1986, enabling other Arab airlines to join AACC's operation network.

Mr. Ali said that this step is necessary for dealing with serious competition from foreign airlines.

Mr. Ali voiced the AACC's appreciation to the Jordanian and Iraqi governments for facilitating the work of the company and helping it to succeed and serve Arab national economies. Thanks to the two governments, he said, the AACC has been able to complete the first three years of its life successfully, laying down the foundation stage and moving on to production and profit-making stage, Mr. Ali added.

The AACC faced the problem of obtaining licences to operate in a number of foreign countries last year because of protectionist policies adopted by certain countries to safeguard the interests of their national airlines, Mr. Ali said.

The AACC was established in 1982 in accordance with an agreement signed by the Jordanian and Iraqi governments. The Amman-based company has a capital of JD 20 million and it is financially and administratively independent but is supervised by a board of directors composed of representatives from both countries.

Chase Manhattan given 3 months to sell or liquidate

AMMAN (R) — Jordan has cancelled Chase Manhattan Bank's operating licence, giving the bank three months to sell or begin liquidating its business, Central Bank Deputy Governor Maher Shukri said Wednesday.

The cancellation follows the bank's decision to withdraw from Jordan rather than increase its capital in line with a government edict. Mr. Shukri told Reuters in an interview.

Mr. Shukri said Chase could sell its business to any licensed bank in Jordan with the Central Bank's approval. Banking sources said Britain's Grindlay's Bank was negotiating to buy Chase Manhattan's operations.

"During this period Chase will not take any new business, and if by the end of March we do not receive a clear-cut application it will have to liquidate its business by the end of next July," he added.

Chase was among banks in rejecting the edict raising minimum paid-up capital to JD 5 million from JD 3 million, Mr. Shukri said.

Foreign banks which accepted it were Citibank of the U.S., the Luxembourg-based BCCI, Hon-

gkong Bank Group subsidiary, British Bank of the Middle East, Grindlays, Iraq's Rafidain Bank, Arab Land Bank of Egypt and Beirut-based Bank Al Mashrek.

The government imposed the capital requirement for all banks after cancelling an earlier edict asking foreign banks to accept at least 51 per cent Jordanian equity.

Tawjihi exams begin Jan. 18

AMMAN (J.T.) — The mid-year Tawjihi examinations start in the East Bank of Jordan on Jan. 18 and last until Jan. 26, the Ministry of Education announced Wednesday. It said that 49,911 male and female students will take the examinations, of whom 15,556 have been registered to study outside of school. The students follow the scientific, literary, commercial, agricultural, industrial, nursing, hotel and postal curriculums, the announcement said.

It said that the ministry has made ample preparations in all governorates to enable the students to take their examinations at a total of 654 centres.

Chemistry symposium opens at JPMC

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day symposium on "Chemistry and Society" opened Wednesday at the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) headquarters in Amman. Addressing the opening session was Yarmouk University President Dr. Adnan Badran, who urged Jordanian industrialists to help devise a formula by which researchers and scientists at Jordanian universities and higher educational centres will be able to direct their efforts towards exploiting Jordan's natural resources and helping industry to cut down on production costs.

Dr. Badran said that it is time for Jordanians to develop a better understanding of chemistry as a means of helping developing nations to promote their national economies. Scientific research and study in the field of chemistry could be very helpful to the development of Jordanian industry, Dr. Badran said.

Also speaking at the opening session was Dr. Mohammad Salameh, president of the Jordanian Society of Chemists.

U.S. allies reject Reagan's call for sanctions against Libya

(Continued from page 1)

measures) will change some of their minds," he said of the allies.

He said of the new sanctions: "If these steps do not end Qadhafi's terrorism, I promise you that further steps will be taken."

He added to say that further steps he had in mind, but last week administration officials were saying military action was possible.

Mr. Reagan said he took seriously threats of retaliation against the United States by Col. Qadhafi, who has said he will order suicide raids inside the United States if his nation is attacked.

"How can you not take seriously a man who has proven he is as irrational as he has," he said. "I think he is not only a barbarian but he is flaky (unstable)."

In measures to take effect between now and Feb. 1, Mr. Reagan prohibited U.S. citizens from granting or extending credits or loans to the Libyan government.

He also banned transactions relating to commercial and other activities in Libya, including travel, except those necessary to wind up such activities. He excluded activities connected with journalism from the ban.

Mr. Reagan banned the following activities from Feb. 1: All Libyan imports into the United States and all U.S. exports to Libya, except for publications and news materials, and certain humanitarian donations.

Transactions relating to transportation to or from Libya.

The purchase of goods for export from Libya to any country.

Performance of contracts in Libya or other transactions relating to activities in Libya other than press activity.

Foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies were not accepted.

Mr. Reagan told the 1,000 to 1,500 Americans in Libya, mostly oil workers and dependents, to leave. He warned that they would

be liable to prosecution if they violated his order.

Mr. Reagan, who said the responsibility for the airport attacks must be borne by radical Palestinian leader Abu Nidal, said:

"Qadhafi's long-standing involvement in terrorism is well documented and there is irrefutable evidence of his role in these attacks."

He said the United States had evidence — which he declined to disclose — of guerrilla training camps in Libya.

"We know the location of their camps and we also know Abu Nidal more or less has moved his headquarters into Libya," Mr. Reagan said. "We speak with confidence."

He also disclosed that U.S. authorities had "aborted 126 terrorist missions" inside and outside the United States last year. He refused to go into any detail.

Japan, a major U.S. ally, stopped short of giving prompt support to President Reagan's call.

Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said in a carefully-worded statement the government "understands the circumstances under which the U.S. government has come to take the present measures."

Japan "will study what responses to make as it collects relevant information," he said.

U.S. oil companies said they will sever business ties with Libya but declined to assess any financial impact of the sanctions President Reagan ordered. (See page 7).

In Canberra, Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said Australia probably would join a trade boycott of Libya because of its own vulnerability to guerrilla attacks.

But he said a decision would be made by the cabinet when it meets later this month.

NATO member Turkey is unlikely to react to President Rea-

gan's call, Turkish officials and Western diplomats said.

They said Ankara would have to weigh a strong stand against international terrorism and its role in the Western alliance with Islamic solidarity and economic interests in Libya.

Austria's state-owned firm Voest Alpine intends to complete construction of a multi-million dollar steel mill in Libya, but would review the situation if its West European partners pulled out, a company spokesman said.

"If all of Western Europe boycotted Libya, then it will certainly have consequences for us. We would have to then see how to continue the project," the spokesman told Reuters.

In Moscow, Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa said the United States is practising "gunboat diplomacy" against Libya, and the official news agency TASS said U.S. sanctions as seen as measures "clearing the way to an armed aggression."

At a news conference on Soviet relations with Asian countries, Mr. Kapitsa was asked about the Kremlin's view of current tension between the United States and Libya, and about President Reagan's announcement on Tuesday.

Mr. Kapitsa did not specifically address Mr. Reagan's order. Mr. Kapitsa instead alluded to Libya's accusations that the United States is amassing warships along its Mediterranean coast in preparation for attack.

"The United States arrogates itself the right to send in bombers and aircraft carriers," Mr. Kapitsa said. "This is a cannonball policy — gunboat diplomacy. And this policy raises concern and objections even among its NATO allies."

"Our state has been supporting and will support Libya so it can resist this cynical pressure from the United States."

TASS described Mr. Reagan's claims that Libya supports terrorism as "unfounded charges and insulting remarks" against Col. Qadhafi.

After detailing the sanctions, TASS stated that "Washington has thus again resorted to the policy of state terrorism, which it is widely practising in Central America and elsewhere, this time against a sovereign Arab country."

Col. Qadhafi was reported on Wednesday to have held telephone consultations with the ruler of Kuwait over the U.S. measures.

Kuwait Radio reported that Col. Qadhafi initiated the telephone call to the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and "exchanged views on the latest developments in the Arab region." It did not elaborate.

Iran will consider every action taken against Libya as an action against itself. Tehran Radio quoted President Ali Khamenei as telling Col. Qadhafi in a 30-minute telephone conversation Tuesday night.

"We are at your side and will consider any move against the brother country Libya as a move against the Islamic Republic of Iran... we are sure that our domineering enemies will receive a reply from us, you and all combatant Muslim nations," the radio quoted Mr. Khamenei as saying.

In Fez, Morocco, Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam Tureiki dismissed President Reagan's sanctions, saying that there are practically no economic relations between the two nations anyway.

"We will continue our same (political) line," Mr. Tureiki told reporters covering the foreign ministers meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC). "This is not the kind of pressure or policy that will help at all," he said, adding that the Ame-

rican action violated international law.

The Libyans were conducting a series of bilateral meetings with representatives of other Muslim countries in Fez, following the declaration of support for Libya issued by the 45-member Islamic conference on Tuesday.

Conference sources told the AP the Libyans remained concerned with what they feel is a real American-Israeli military threat.

The Fez declaration expressed firm solidarity with the Libyan people and "active support in the defence of their sovereignty, territorial integrity and territorial waters," at a time when the U.S. Sixth Fleet is cruising off the Libyan coast.

The declaration also called the attention of the international community to the "constant provocations and aggressive escalation on the part of the international imperialism and the Zionist entity against Libya."

As the annual Islamic foreign ministers' meeting rapidly reached a consensus on the declaration, the official Libyan news agency JANA said Col. Qadhafi had ordered a halt to propaganda attacks in the media against Arab countries because of the support his country was receiving.

JANA said media campaigns against Egypt and Iraq, whose relations with Libya are strained, would stop.

The OIC declaration, read out by Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzadeh, said the organisation, in "its firm solidarity with the Arab Libyan people... calls the attention of the international community to the constant provocations and aggressive escalation on the part of the international imperialism and the Zionist entity against Libya and the ensuing serious results for international peace and security."

It added that the conference "considers the imperialist-Zionist threat levelled at Libya a threat to all the Islamic states."

Fly the Golden Falcon



from AMMAN

WEEKLY
5 FLIGHTS TO THE GULFWITH CONVENIENT CONNECTIONS TO
KARACHI, BOMBAY, DELHI,
COLOMBO, DHAKA
AND THE FAR EAST

'The essence of the Middle East conflict is the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people'

Following is the full text of the speech delivered Tuesday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the opening session of Arab-American dialogue II, organised by the Arab Thought Forum and the American Enterprise Institute.



THE INITIATION of the United States as a world power in the Middle East coincided with the emergence of the Palestine question as a problem of international proportions. Britain's resort to the United Nations in 1947 ensured its non-resolution and the establishment of the status quo, thus perpetuating a conflict which has grown ever more complex in terms of participants, influence on regional stability, and the security of the whole world.

There is little doubt today that the Arab-Israeli conflict posed and continues to pose a threat of far greater dimensions than was ever envisaged originally. It has already caused five major wars between the Arabs and the Israelis and on at least two occasions has led to serious superpower confrontation. Moreover, it triggered off an economic crisis in terms of energy shortage of proportions unknown to the international community since the crash of 1929 and the resultant depression. It continues to pose a threat whose contemporary manifestations we have all witnessed in the spread of political terrorism and religious fundamentalism.

Throughout most of the last four decades, the main characteristics of American foreign policy in the Middle East have remained surprisingly constant despite the frequent change in administrations. At heart, the American attitude towards our region is rooted in the Eisenhower Doctrine whose thesis remains the main preoccupation of American policy-makers. The over-riding concern is a function of world power politics rather than the analysis of the political dynamics inherent in the Arab-Israeli dispute. The primary motive of American policy-makers has always been the containment of Soviet Communist encroachment in the Middle East. The American perception is that the Soviets are intent on world domination and therefore the vital strategic position and resources of our region must be protected from Communist expansion.

His Majesty King Hussein put this to the emergency Arab summit conference held at Casablanca in August 1985: "To Israel, time has not been a dormant factor in the no-peace and no-war situation prevailing since the October war

lowing the dissensions in Arab ranks caused by the Camp David accords; and while Egypt and Lebanon were in turmoil and Begin's Israel was planning Sharon's war against the Palestinians, Haig should seek simultaneously the collaboration of the U.S., Israel, and the Arab states to counter Soviet expansionism in the region. Haig's attitude was all the more difficult to comprehend in that an American Secretary of State was attempting to revive a doctrine — the Eisenhower Doctrine — some thirty years after it was first introduced.

Time of course does not stand still. No one knows that better than the Arabs. Since the Great Arab revolt, we in particular, have been called upon to recognise the political realities of our world, hard and unpalatable as they may be. Today, the Arabs are fully conscious of the American commitment to the existence and security of the state of Israel, but time has not enabled us to afford a similar commitment, mainly because of the policies and attitudes of Israel itself.

Time moreover, has been extremely harsh with the Palestinians. The price they have had to pay for waiting for a solution to their problem is enormous and may not be possible to compensate. In their steadfastness, the Palestinians have been condemned to suffer the indignities of homelessness, rootlessness, poverty, disease, and oppression. Their discontent and sense of grievance has become a breeding ground for radical politics compelling some, in the absence of a just and lasting settlement, towards nihilistic manifestations of wanton terror. Meanwhile, Israel has made an excellent use of the time available to compound their misery.

His Majesty King Hussein put this to the emergency Arab summit conference held at Casablanca in August 1985: "To Israel, time has not been a dormant factor in the no-peace and no-war situation prevailing since the October war

Time of course does not stand still. No one knows that better than the Arabs. Since the Great Arab revolt, we in particular, have been called upon to recognise the political realities of our world, hard and unpalatable as they may be. Today, the Arabs are fully conscious of the American commitment to the existence and security of the state of Israel, but time has not enabled us to afford a similar commitment, mainly because of the policies and attitudes of Israel itself.

However, they seek to achieve that objective by ensuring the collaboration of all the states in the region irrespective of the nature of the relationship they enjoy with each other. While the overall aim is collectivist and comprehensive, the approach is often not. The United States frequently deals with the states of the region in a bilateral manner; a method which has been formalised in the so-called multi-track approach that has become so familiar. As a result, though pursuing a single aim, the United States has had to adopt many different facets of the same policy to achieve it. The anomaly of considering the region as one unit, but dealing with its constituent member states differently and separately, does not seem to worry American policy-makers despite the many difficulties thus incurred.

Needless to say, the Eisenhower doctrine was followed by Nixon's, Carter's, and then the Haig-Reagan concept of "strategic consensus." These doctrines — I prefer to call them statements of policy objectives — have invariably glossed over the significance of the Arab-Israeli dispute in determining the international alignment of the Arab states, concentrating instead on measures to check the Soviet threat to the region. Oblivious to the sense of injustice and outrage felt by the Arabs in the wake of Israel's creation and the subsequent wars which have compounded the original grievance, the U.S. has called on the Arabs to deal with the Jewish state as an Arab partner despite the prevailing state of war between them. With the inevitable variation in the ideological affiliations of the Arab states, the identification of Arab moderate and conservative states as tacit friends and allies of Israel by the United States has served but one purpose: the aggravation of inter-Arab disputes and rivalries.

Nothing could have been better calculated to intensify inter-Arab differences than Alexander Haig's concept of strategic consensus which was preceded by Zbigniew Brzezinski's notion of "consultative security framework" for the Middle East. It is somewhat incomprehensible to us that fol-

lowing the pattern has been one of progress in the achievement of Zionist objectives. It has allowed Israel to expropriate more than 52 per cent of total lands, to orchestrate the depression of the economy in the occupied territories, to seize control of natural resources, particularly water, and to announce the formal annexation of East (Arab) Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights. Above all, it has enabled the Israeli authorities to continue undermining the peace process, a fact evidenced by the recent intensification of repressive measures against the civilian population under military occupation. The policies of Israel offer constant solace and encouragement to the Arab rejectionists of a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

There have been other drastic changes in the region. I am sure it is not news to you to know that the Soviet Union is already in the Middle East and has been there for quite some time. As the other superpower, the USSR feels it too has legitimate interests which it wants to protect in this vital region. We may choose to ignore this fact to our own detriment. The Soviets have acquired a position of power and influence not only by virtue of their superpower status, but by their skillful manipulation of the dynamics of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Early Russian comprehension of the deep sense of national injury and humiliation felt by the Arabs, allowed them to insinuate the Soviet Union into the Middle East as a power to be reckoned with. Thus in many parts of the Arab World today, the USSR is regarded as a friend, and indeed an ally. Yet, American policy-makers without attempting to rectify the situation, redress the balance and make provisions for a just and durable settlement of the Palestine question, expected the Arab states to join Israel and the U.S. in the containment of Soviet power and influence in the region.

It is in fact these considerations that led me to participate in the endeavour of the American Enterprise Institute for Policy Research and their special project, "New Directions in Foreign Policy," the United States in the changing Middle East. Our hope and

anticipation is that the exchange of views, the expression of fears and expectations and their proper analysis may in some way lead to a better understanding of the respective positions. It is also hoped that our joint effort may influence the attitudes and outlooks of policy-makers both present and future — by providing them with the kind of perspectives to which they can relate.

Despite the prevailing deadlock which characterises all the Middle East conflicts: the Palestine question, the crisis in Lebanon, and the war in the Gulf, Jordan has undergone a major transformation as regards its attitude, policy, and outlook. Reliving on its own comprehension of the present realities, past experiences, and on the accumulated wisdom and foresight of its political leadership, Jordan has charted a new and relevant course for practical approaches to peace, stability, and development.

It is no secret that we have been saddened and appalled by the paralysis which has dominated inter-Arab politics as result of the dissensions in Arab ranks. We have done our utmost to reconcile differences and revive a semblance of Arab consensus so that constructive and positive moves may be taken on a pan-Arab scale in the service of regional peace. We are heartened and gratified by the general response. Our attempts have yielded some excellent results to encourage us to continue our effort towards inter-Arab reconciliation.

Jordan's abiding concern is the beleaguered indigenous Arab population under Israeli military occupation since 1967. Their corporate identity has been continuously undermined by creeping Israeli annexation, while the status of their territory as 'occupied', under the provisions of international law, has been constantly eroded.

This is not a call for polarisation in inter-Arab politics between moderate and radical stances, but an earnest plea for the adoption of sane and realistic policies that can further the current pace of development, maintain the stability of our society in a rapidly changing world, and ensure the security of our area.

In pursuance of the same goal, under the auspices of the Arab League and through the good offices of Saudi Arabia and Tunisia, the prime ministers of both Jordan and Syria have held candid and open talks reviewing the relationship between the two countries in a spirit characterised by candour, fraternity and a determination to resolve past differences for the sake of the higher Arab interest. The two countries

should concede these prior to any negotiations. Conversely, Arab doubters of the usefulness of peace negotiations seize upon Israeli intransigence to reinforce their case against the peace process.

The result is a vicious circle in which Israeli and Arab extremists create a symbiosis where the former's territorial claims constantly feed and fuel the latter's rejectionism. The casualty is peace and the end result near anarchy — a breeding-ground for extremism. Virtual anarchy has been the scourge of Lebanon for more than ten years. It has spawned diverse and divergent organisations whose expressed profession is violence and terror. Today, the fate of Lebanon beckons others; yet Jordan is determined to call a halt to the fragmentation and disintegration threatening Arab society under the onslaught of political fundamentalism of various shades and different affiliations.

Jordan has not been daunted by the task at hand. Our endeavours are directed towards the reinforcement of the peace constituency in Arab politics. In a bid to restore Egypt to the Arab fold, diplomatic relations with Egypt have been re-established, and Jordan is cooperating closely with the Egyptian political leadership to keep the peace process open and viable. The reconciliation between Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation received Jordanian encouragement and endorsement. Our fresh start at inter-Arab coordination and cooperation requires both Arab and international support, for political moderation in the Middle East is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain. The moderate states in the region must stand together as a bulwark against extremist radical tendencies.

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The preservation of the Arab identity of the people under occupation and the protection of the status of their territory, pending a settlement, require immediate attention. Action is called for to avert a situation which would only compound the present crisis. The people of historic Palestine, both Arabs and Jews, must not be condemned to living under unequal systems of government, signifying that future generations will have to endure the prospect of perpetual war and conflict.

It is these alarming prospects which spur Jordan on in its efforts to achieve peace and stability in a region where extremists on both the Arab and Israeli sides are determined to maintain hostile postures. The absence of a peaceful settlement of the long-standing Palestine question has provided affirmation for the prophets of doom that the current moves are a futile exercise which ought to be abandoned. Advocates of Israel's questionable claims for security requirements insist that Arabs

Palestinian question.

I am, as most of you would know by now, no doomsday prophet; but at the same time you do not need me to tell you why the world has a healthy and understandable preoccupation with the nuclear arms race, in terms of proliferation and disarmament. It is a subject which has dominated the attention of the superpowers and the international community of nations to the exclusion of many other important problems and issues. What I want to point out is that the Middle East is neither immune nor isolated from the threat of a nuclear conflagration. Nuclear weapons are already in the Middle East. The U.S. maintains a nuclear presence in Turkey and aboard nuclear-armed submarines in and around the waters of the region. More significantly, Israel has both a sizeable nuclear capability and is known to deploy nuclear missiles. Its nuclear programme has benefited from the direct and indirect support of nuclear and near-nuclear powers, including South Africa. Moreover, the development and the proliferation of mass destruction weapons are as hazardous to man's future and the region's security as are nuclear weapons, perhaps even more so, since these weapons can be more readily accessible and more easily produced.

The possibilities of regional conflict, miscalculations leading to a U.S.-Soviet confrontation, or terrorist operations triggering off a nuclear war make the Arab-Israeli dispute probably the most serious flash-point in the world today. Such an eventuality is conceivable either on the basis of a conventional armed conflict escalating into a nuclear exchange or a nuclear first strike by a small country on account of a perceived threat to its national security. In either case, it is unlikely that the conflict could be contained within regional limits. For decades the possibility of a nuclear exchange has been envisaged in the Middle Eastern context.

The risks entailed in these potent factors are incalculable. Retaliation and retribution become irrelevant. Nothing would save the region from the nuclear abyss that threatens to engulf the whole of mankind. It is for these reasons too that Jordan will persist in its quest for peace. We call on all other nations, especially the two superpowers, to look for new ways, explore fresh avenues and experiment with novel procedures to push the peace process forward; we cannot afford to fail. This may require that certain positions and long-standing attitudes, as well as established policies have to be re-examined and reassessed in the light of current developments. Shifts and changes, in some cases radical and unpalatable, may have to be introduced. Not only on the part of the local powers, but across the board, particularly as regards the two superpowers.

Jordan has been encouraged by the overall international reaction to its moves to revive the peace process, especially by the positive evolution of the European position towards greater even-handedness. Member states of the European Economic Community have openly and collectively acknowledged that the essence of the conflict in this region is the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. As early as 1980 the Venice Declaration addressed this core issue without equivocation by stating that "The Palestinian people, who are conscious of existing as such, must be placed in a position, by an appropriate process defined within the framework of the comprehensive peace settlement, to exercise fully their rights to self-determination." The European position was reaffirmed still more forcefully in March of this year (1985). We believe it is high time the U.S. made a similar gesture towards the Palestinian people to inject a fresh impetus in the peace process.

U.N. resolutions 242 and 338, to which H.M. King Hussein has reiterated our unreserved adherence in his recent U.N. address, provide a sound and practical machinery for peace-making in the Middle East. Their provisions call for the engagement of international fora in the conduct of peace negotiations. Resolution 242 led to the dispatch of the Jarring mission to implement its provisions on behalf of the U.N. Security Council. 338 was more specific in that it called for negotiations to be conducted between "the parties concerned under appropriate auspices aimed at establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East." The adoption of the latter resolution was followed by the convocation of the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference under the joint chairmanship of the U.S. and the USSR. Significantly, the question of direct negotiations arises with reference to neither text nor procedure.

Today we have to recognise that the Camp David Accords have run their full course, and the results in terms of an overall settlement of the Palestine question are far from satisfactory. The convocation of an international peace conference is an essential measure, not only because it would give international legitimacy to the peace process, but because it is the only umbrella under which direct negotiations can take place for a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute as called for by U.N. resolutions 242 and 338.

In addition to the mobilisation of the U.N. machinery, the two superpowers could assume a more activist approach to regional conflicts in the Middle East. Mere statements of foreign policy objectives are no substitute for coherent and comprehensive diplomacy. The aim should not be the imposition of a settlement, but the manipulation of the levers of influence to induce constructive results. The objective must be to ease tensions so that normal peaceful means of conflict resolution can be pursued. The imposition of conditions on the sale of arms is rarely conducive to the peace process. Indeed, it may have serious adverse military and political implications in the future, particularly as regards the Gulf region.

The U.S. in particular, is called upon to resist domestic pressures that may adversely influence the direction of its foreign policy and adopt a more activist approach to peace-making. Measures are required from the American administration that can create momentum to propel the states of the Middle East, the machinery of foreign policy making, and the American public, into moves that can sustain and nourish recent developments.

The Palestine question remains the most complex obstacle to peace and stability in the Middle East. Unresolved it is capable of touching off an upsurge in fundamentalist fanaticism whose immediate goal is the destruction of the established order throughout the region. Rightly or wrongly, failure to provide an appropriate settlement is generally attributed to America's consistent identification with Israel. Their bilateral relationship embodied in a "strategic alliance" has brought about the kind of dependence which stunts the peace process as it constantly seeks to inhibit the growth of the desired middle ground in both American and Israeli politics. A more comprehensive and balanced approach to the problem would undoubtedly restore confidence and open the door for better relations, while the continuation of the present deadlocked situation will lead to greater alienation and further radicalisation.

It has become abundantly clear that bilateral approaches to the problems of the Middle East are not satisfactory. They must be replaced by definitive and practical schemes to ease tension and resolve conflict. We are fully conscious of the fact that the line of seismic politics running from the Black Sea in the west, to the Caspian Sea in the east, has dropped southward to extend from the Gulf, in the east, and westward, to the East Mediterranean-Red Sea basin. This conflict ridden area: Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran, to which may be added the famine-ravaged countries of Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Chad, has become the soft underbelly of superpower confrontation, threatened by potent social, economic, as well as political factors that may bring about the complete collapse of the present state structures.

It is evident that world security can only be enhanced in the long run by regional stability. The importance of bilateral relations cannot substitute for regional cooperation and collaboration. The geopolitical reality of the Middle East and the economic and cultural interdependence which has evolved in our relations with the West as a result of our long historical interaction should contribute to mutual understanding and benefits. It is imperative that the superpowers take into account the fact that peace in our troubled region is the only insurance against instability and the continuous fanning of the flames of war.

Clearly we have to work with concepts of rational exploitation of our shared material and human resources for the well-being of all. Our political exchanges must give birth to policies related to human needs and requirements and should not be simply profit-oriented, enriching the few. Trade and commerce are all well and good, but they should be complemented by the promotion of kinship among different groupings, as well as nations, leading to clear and positive action for the common good which is the sole road to human progress and prosperity.

Israel fits the bill better

PRESIDENT Reagan's statement announcing economic sanctions against Libya makes good reading, especially his phrasing of the words "atrocities," "shocking," and "conscience of the world," but after going through the entire text one wonders whether the same phrases plus some more could also not apply to Israel. Referring to those who carried out the Dec. 27 attacks at Rome and Vienna airports, the U.S. president said: "These murderers could not carry out their crimes without the sanctuary and support provided by regimes such as Col. Qadhafi's in Libya."

In the same vein, let us ask Mr. Reagan: Could the Israelis have carried out atrocities which include massacres of hundreds of innocent, defenceless, unarmed Palestinian women and children from Deir Yassin to Sabra and Shatila and the Oct. 1 bombing in Tams which killed over 60 people without the limitless support and sanctuary offered by the U.S.?

Childing Libya for calling the Dec. 27 attacks "heroic," the U.S. president said: "I call the criminal outrages by an outlaw regime." But when the international community was horrified by the Oct. 1 Israeli bombing and condemned the Jewish state, the best Mr. Reagan could do was praise Israeli pilots' accuracy in the bombing.

Also, it would only take the U.S. president a couple of minutes to check U.N. records and find out that it is Israel that is described as an outlaw state when the world body issued a new call in November to isolate the Jewish state as long as it pursues its present policies. The call was endorsed by more than two-thirds of the U.N. member states but the U.S. disagreed. Why does a majority of world nations see Israel as the sole source of all the troubles in the Middle East while the U.S. remains to be the one who is not convinced? Quite possibly, the Americans think of themselves as the guardians of morality in the world and therefore they could judge what is right and just wrong in a much more "objective and superior" way than the rest of the world community.

The U.S. president said the policies and actions of Libya constitute a threat to the national security and foreign policy of the U.S. One wonders how could the aggressive policies of Israel be described. As compatible with U.S. foreign policy? Probably the answer is yes. Which brings us to the other inevitable question. When will the American people, the masses that make up the great United States, realise that the foreign policy of their government is the direct cause of the present state of affairs in the Middle East, not to mention Central America, and other parts of the world? And it is the U.S. taxpayers' money that oils the Israeli war machine?

We are of course against terrorism in all its forms and believe that those who sponsor terrorism should be punished. If the U.S. agrees with us and the rest of the world community, the first to go on the dock would be the Americans' best friends: the Israelis. But the U.S. would refuse to agree that the actions of Israel constitute terrorism. The simple reality is that the U.S. is blind when it comes to things concerning Israel but uses a microscope when it comes to the Arabs.

Well, go ahead Mr. Reagan. You might or might not be doing the right thing over Libya but definitely you are not on the right track when it comes to Israel.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al-Rai: Plotting against Libya

AMERICA'S economic sanctions imposed on Libya do not mean that Washington has ruled out the military option. The United States might at any time launch an aggression on Libya in implementation of repeated threats to that country. Ever since the attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports, the United States and Israel have been launching an organised campaign against the Libyans and the Palestinians. Since this campaign has started from the moment the attacks took place, one can only assume that both the campaign and the attacks took place, one can only assume that both the campaign and the attacks were planned by the Israelis and the Americans to run consecutively, and pave the way for an act of aggression on Libya and the Palestinians. All the terrorist attacks against civilians including those in Rome, Vienna and the Italian cruiser have been directed against the national interests of the Arab Nation. The terrorist attacks and the campaign are designed to create a hostile atmosphere around the world directed against the Arabs, after accusing them of terrorist activity. The United States has tried by all means to find allies to join it in its aggression on Libya, but when its attempts were turned down, it had to resort to Israel alone. Both Washington and Tel Aviv are now poised to launch an attack on Libya despite the fact that Tripoli has strongly denounced the terrorist attacks on the airports of the two European cities. The economic sanctions against Libya are only a prelude to the military aggression.

Al-Dustour: Arabs and Americans

IN an address to the Arab-American dialogue Tuesday Prince Hassan reaffirmed Jordan's keenness on helping the Arab people under Israeli occupation rule. He spoke in detail about the deteriorating conditions of the Palestinian people whose land has been occupied since 1967 and Israel's continued seizure of Arab land to build settlements after evicting the Arab inhabitants from there. Jordan, which is quite aware of the dangers confronting the nation, has been making continuous efforts for the sake of reestablishing peace based on justice and guaranteeing stability and security for all states in the region. Jordan has been enlisting the help of all international forces to help establish such peace. Prince Hassan pointed out that as the European countries have been supporting Jordan's endeavours, the United States has continually ignored the facts in our region, giving priority to containing what they call Soviet influence in the region. In this way the United States caused the loss of many opportunities for establishing real peace. Prince Hassan said that the United States seeks to serve its strategic plans and thus it has been neglecting the interests of the Arab Nation while at the same time it tries to call the Arabs and the Israelis to launch an alliance at the expense of the lost Arab land and Arab rights.

Sawt Al-Shaab: Another condemnation expected

ON the agenda of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Morocco is a group of important issues for the Arab and Islamic countries. They range from the Gulf conflict to threats against Libya and the Zionist penetration of Africa. Therefore we consider this meeting important and offers a chance for all Muslim nations to take stock of past events and try to benefit from past lessons in the course of handling these issues and finding a common ground for the future. Mere condemnation of Iranian aggression on Iraq has not changed anything, and the conflict continues. Also passive attitude towards the U.S.-Israeli threats against Libya cannot help the Muslims repel any similar aggression at any time in the future. It is really regrettable to see the Arab and Muslim nations resorting to merely issuing condemnations against hostile actions and aggression by forces which continue to impose their will on the peoples of the region. It is regrettable to see the Muslim people possessing no other weapon except condemnations and denunciations with which to protect their interests and rights. We hope the Fez meeting will try to patch up differences among Muslim nations and help them rise to the challenge confronting them all.

1985-1986

The age of high-speed nouvelle cuisine emerges in France

France's state railways, SNCF, has launched a counter-attack to the competition from motor and air travel with a new concept in first-class travel: Paul Bellet reports on plush carriages with the latest in nouvelle cuisine and microcomputers for bored passengers.

PARIS — It could have been a VIP lounge at any large international airport. It was instead platform two at Strasbourg railway station. Opposite the new first-class carriage of the Strasbourg-Paris express, known as the "Jean Lamour", passengers look shelter from the cold, damp December morning in the lounge where hot coffee was served, newspapers were available and a woman with a computer of baggage handling, and a man with a reservation desk and a hotel booking if needed.

The other day we had a rich fellow who arrived in a terrible mood and told one of our people that he had been able to park his car. He gave the official the keys to park it. When he returned from his train journey a few days later, he found the keys with the house and car in the car park without a scratch. "I said Mr. Louis de Vives, one of the marketing executives in charge of the new experiment in first-class rail travel, launched this winter by the SNCF, the French state railways.

The train itself also constitutes a new concept in first-class rail travel. The plush carriages combine open plan and privacy. The comfortable armchairs in pastel colours can turn to face in every direction. Travellers can mingle quietly in a corner or in groups for business, a game of cards, a snack and a drink.

The restaurant serves the latest in French nouvelle cuisine with the food prepared by one of the country's top new-generation chefs. The restaurant is also very expensive and a meal for one of foie gras, scallops, cheese, and chocolate mousse, cake washed

down with Badoit water and some Alsation wine costs \$57 with service included.

In the train, there is a minitel microcomputer for bored passengers to play with. Music cassettes and earphones are also available. One day there will be a telephone and television. In the dining room, the maître d'hôtel and the waiters and waitresses have all been trained by Mr. René Schumayer, a former maître d'hôtel at the Ritz in Paris. The lounge staff have all been trained under the supervision of Mr. Jean Gillet, the director of the Hotel Maurice, another Paris palace. Overseeing the smooth running of the journey is a Commissaire de Bord, the rail equivalent of a cruise ship's purser, dressed in pinstripes and bow tie.

"All this is not just a gimmick. It follows more than two years of careful preparation and study," said Mr. de Vives. "We were worried about the steady decline in first-class rail travel and decided to test a new concept to attract people back to the first-class. The idea is to offer a complete service starting well before the actual journey and continuing at the end of the trip after the passenger leaves the train."

For SNCF the fall in first-class rail traffic, where margins are much higher than in second class, had become a major source of anxiety. Between 1962 and 1975, first-class rail travel had grown steadily by 46 per cent. But since 1975 it has been declining by about 25 per cent. Ten years ago, first class accounted for 23 per cent of total rail travel in France.

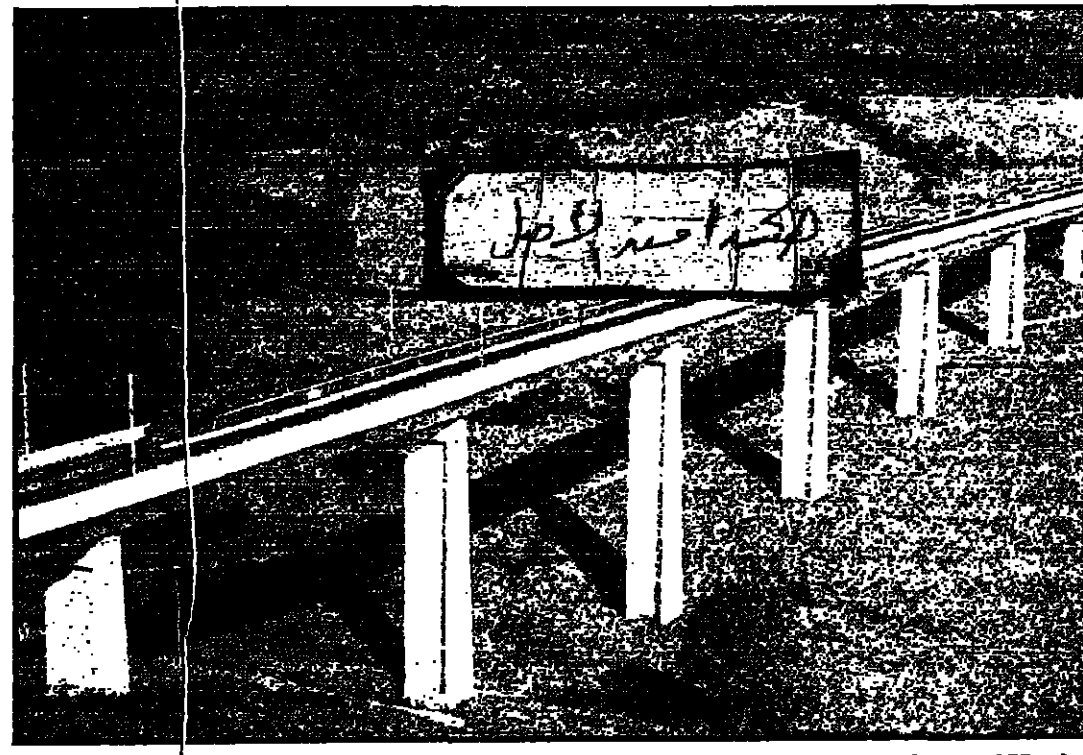
This year it is down to 17 per cent. Several reasons are behind this

decline. SNCF officials say that the economic recession is partly to blame. So is the competition from domestic airlines. Air Inter, the main internal French company, now has at least 30 major connections in France and on major routes like Paris-Nice or Paris-Toulouse it uses the Airbus. A third significant reason for the fall in first-class traffic is the improvements the SNCF made in its second class in the last ten to 15 years.

"We made a big effort in second class and to some extent did not pay enough attention to first class," said Mr. de Vives. Indeed, in the Corail carriages, which SNCF started to introduce between 1972 and 1975, the second class was considerably improved and the difference with first class was slim. "People were saying they weren't getting their money's worth. They either decided to travel second class or left the train for the car or the plane," Mr. de Vives said.

With the introduction of the high-speed train link (train à grande vitesse — or TGV for short) between Paris and Lyon, the SNCF struck a first return blow to the airlines. On the western part of the country, it started experimenting with special children carriages — a sort of playground on wheels — to hold on to and increase family travellers. In the east now, it has launched its new experiment to reconquer first-class passengers. So far, there is only one train from Strasbourg to Paris and from Paris to Strasbourg via Nancy a day with the new service. In spring, the SNCF will decide whether to extend the service elsewhere, but already the state railways appear satisfied with its first results.

The SNCF had two alternatives to win back disgruntled first-class travellers. It could either reduce the price differential between first and second (at present for every



On February 26, 1981, a TGV high-speed train reached a top speed of 380 kph, breaking the world record which the SNCF had held since 1955, when two electric locomotives reached 331 kph.

FFr100 (\$13) in second you pay FFr150 in first. The first was a defeatist policy so the second also has the merit of seeking to attract what we call leaders, or trip-bracket people. The question is then not so much one of price but quality. With better service and facilities you can in fact ask people to pay even more," said Mr. de Vives.

For the restaurant, the SNCF persuaded Mr. Joel Robuchon, who owns and runs Jamin in Paris, a three-star Michelin Guide establishment regarded as perhaps the most inventive restaurant in the capital, to supervise the cooking. All the dishes are prepared using a new technique under vacuum and then heated by steam oven on the train. Cold dishes are prepared by the chefs on the train. Unlike other meals on trains,

SNCF has decided not to subsidise the food in the new first class. "The idea is that the restaurant should pay for itself," a SNCF official said. SNCF already loses 185 million French francs a year on its catering operations alone out of an overall deficit this year estimated at 4.6 billion francs (\$596 million).

The new first class — called officially "Le Nouvelle Première" — is already beginning to break even after a few months in service.

Not everyone, however, is enchanted by the new first class. One of the biggest objections is that a traveller used to the old first class is forced to pay 15 per cent more. The restaurant, on occasions, does not live up to the equivalent of a three-star restaurant in town. Under the circumstances, it is not surprising, but at \$57 a head it is equally understandable that cus-

tomers complain. Others would have preferred to see SNCF recreate the golden days of French rail when you could eat lobster thermidor and then rest on the Blue Train like the celebrated madonna of the sleeping cars.

"But that was absolutely not the point. We did not want to recreate very modern, projected towards the future," said Mr. de Vives. Indeed, the SNCF sees the new first class as part of the state railways' overall renewal and its preparation for the challenges ahead against motor and air travel competition. And, like the airlines, the SNCF is already considering the introduction at some stage of an intermediate business-type class for those who do not want to travel second or pay the surcharge for the new first — Financial Times news feature.

Antarctic-hopes turn cold continent into hot property

By Philip Melchior

WELLINGTON — For the coldest place on earth, the Antarctic has recently become a hot property.

The frozen wastelands which cover 10 per cent of the earth's land surface have been debated in the United Nations and attracted a rash of expeditions from those anxious to establish some sort of claim.

Environmentalists want it for a world park, the Third World wants it for its suspended treasures, and the developed nations, who carved up the vast southern continent between them, want it to stay just the way it is.

"It's greed really," says Cath Wallace of the environmental umbrella group Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC).

"It's the prospect that the Antarctic might be exploitable. While it was just a place for scientific experiments, no one cared."

The 1970s oil crises focused attention on the Antarctic as a potential world petrol pump for the

21st century. Still undefined reserves of oil, coal and other minerals under the continent's edges and under the ice cap captured the imagination, swamping the cautious tone of original scientific reports which spoke only of possibilities.

Critics say that talk of sharing the Antarctic's bounty around the world ignores the inestimable difficulties of working in the coldest, windiest and driest place on the globe. It is night for half the year and day for the other half, and the shifting ice cap is on average one mile (1.6 km) thick.

The trouble of two expedition ships trapped in the pack ice which surrounds the continent for much of the year showed that just getting down there can be a problem.

Walt Selig, who oversees perhaps the biggest Antarctic research programme for the U.S. National Science Foundation, says the image of the Antarctic as a pot of gold is misleading.

"There's nothing that's been worth a damn found so far," he adds. But the very concept of untapped minerals has been enough

to keep the debate going. At its root is the Antarctic Treaty, a 36-year-old accord that has preserved the continent from international rivalry and produced a rare example of genuine east-west unity.

While 32 nations have adopted the treaty, only 18 — Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Britain, Chile, China, France, West Germany, India, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Soviet Union, United States and Uruguay — make the decisions.

They are the consultative parties, nations which have established credentials by mounting year-round scientific research from permanent ice-stations.

The 18 who run the continent began lengthy talks to try and establish rules for any eventual mining or oil drilling. The same rules would also ensure they maintained control.

But the developing world, led by Malaysia, objected and started a push to wrest that control from the treaty partners and vest it in the United Nations.

At the other extreme ASOC

and Greenpeace began joint world-wide campaigns to try and cut off any possibility of mining or drilling.

In a symbolic attempt to meet the treaty rules of establishing a permanent scientific presence on the ice to qualify for consultative status, Greenpeace is mounting a one million U.S. dollar expedition to the Ross Sea.

The scheme, much criticised by New Zealand, Australia and the United States, will not in fact qualify Greenpeace. Even if it is successful, organisations don't count, only nations.

But expedition organiser Pete Wilkinson is undaunted: "What we're after is a recognition from the governments of the world of the fragility and the importance of the Antarctic."

The debate should reach a climax by 1987. Chris Bebb, the senior New Zealand diplomat who has chaired talks on including minerals in the treaty, told Reuters he believes three more meetings should see the minerals regime in place.

Bebb sees no prospect of mining for at least 50 years and rejects

the environmentalists' claim that once rules are in place, exploitation will automatically follow.

"Without rules there could be chaos, with minerals inside the treaty any mining or drilling will at least be done under strict control," he said.

The regime being negotiated seems certain to include a right of veto by any consultative party, which Bebb says is as tough a safeguard as is needed.

The environmentalists say the treaty nations cannot be trusted, although they concede the existing system is preferable to throwing the continent over to the U.N.

They accuse the treaty nations of failing to enforce existing environmental rules, pointing to France's actions in building an airstrip at its Dumont d'Urville base which contravened ground rules Paris itself had signed and accepted.

"If the treaty countries really believed nothing is going to happen down there, they would not be going to all this trouble to put a regime in place," Wallace retorts. Developing nations made it clear in the U.N. General As-

sembly that they will continue to press their claim for a say in what happens on the ice, despite opposition from all treaty powers, including the United States and the Soviet Union.

Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said Antarctic resources were the common heritage of mankind.

He criticised the system by which "a limited group of states, on the basis of criteria which they determine, confer on themselves the exclusive right to make decisions affecting all activities in Antarctica, in ways unaccountable to the international community."

The treaty nations refused to take part in the U.N. vote, calling for the General Assembly to drop the issue.

It is the U.N. more than the activities of Greenpeace and ASOC, that the treaty nations appear to fear.

The real question with the U.N. is whether the (Antarctic) system — a system that has been institutionalised and protected a large part of the earth's surface — will survive or not," Bebb said.

The season for eating, drinking and shouting in Japan

By Bradley K. Martin

TOKYO — Impassioned cries pierce the frigid air. "Damned fool!" and "Some thief stole my underpants!"

Late December here was a time to shout, mostly internally but, on the occasion of Tokyo's fifth annual "shouting" contest, competitively as well. The contest's sponsor is a manufacturer of mentholated cough drops.

During the rest of the year in Japan, any display of anger or frustration is considered inappropriate — almost superhuman self-control is the rule.

"It's only in December that Japanese shout loudly," says 24-year-old Tatsuya Shimoda, a contestant. "Around the bar districts, after the year-end parties, there are people drinking, shouting and kicking utility poles in every dark little street."

'Solving the frustration'

Japanese are frustrated every day, he says, yet they keep quiet — "always taking care how we'll look in others' eyes." But in December, when they get to shout, Japanese feel they'll be able to solve the frustration.

Mr. Shimoda has done his share of drinking, shouting and kicking already this season. He has attended separate year-end parties for his company as a whole, his department and his section. He has his foot-booting utility poles.

What frustrates him? A former soldier and bartender, he feels he hasn't mastered his new job at a publishing company, he says. And then there is his 25-year-old co-worker, Tomoko Koyama. "I'm so in love. Can I win her heart? It's so frustrating," he laments.

Miss Koyama smiles enigmatically and says nothing until she is pressed. Then she allows that she isn't feeling any stress at all. "My boss is fine, my job is fine. I don't feel the need to shout."

Positive vs. negative shouts

A few women do enter the contest, which includes freestyle shouts and topical shouts chosen from four categories: the Hanshin Tigers baseball team's victory in the Japan Series; Halley's Comet; a recent national contest in which jitsu-men, or "years of fruition," was selected as the best new term to describe people in their 30s and 60s; and "What makes you angrier this year?"

Despite his frustration, Mr. Shimoda has decided on a positive shout for the freestyle: "Tennō heika, banzai!" or "Long live the emperor!" He predicts that many people will shout "Baka-yaro!" which means "damned fool."

Sure enough, about half the contestants in the freestyle choose "Baka-yaro" — including the men's grand-prize winner, who registers 111.7 decibels on a volume gauge.

"Baka-yaro, you mistook me for a sex maniac!" wins in the "angriest" category for a 21-year-old male student, upset that his honorable intentions weren't recognised by a young lady.

Missing unmentionables

It is 24-year-old housewife Sachiko Sakai who bemoans the missing unmentionables. Her 109.3-decibel shout of "Some thief stole my underpants!" wins the women's freestyle.

A truck driver shouts "Boss, give me a raise!" Others who choose

"Baka-yaro" theme reveal that what really has them steamed up this season is the small or non-existent bonuses they've gotten from their employers.

Another popular topic in both the freestyle and the "angriest" categories is schoolchildren's hazing and bullying of weaker classmates, which has become a major national issue. A man bends his knees, rocks back on his heels and protests to the wind, the crowd and the decibel counter that "the bullies are great big baka-yaro!"

A 48-year-old teacher doubles himself up and shrieks that the teachers get the blame although it's the parents of the bullies who ought to be taken to task.

The teacher doesn't win, but she tastes victory in the Halley's Comet category with a scream of "See you in 70 years." A college student wins in the jitsu-men category, reassuring his elders who have reached the so-called years of fruition: "You are young, you are still young!"

And the male winner in the baseball category? Mr. Shimoda, with "Hanshin won! Banzai!" at 109.3 decibels.

Psychologists explain the usual restraint of Japanese by noting that this was historically an immobile, agricultural society. Families could expect that they and their descendants would keep living and working in the same village indefinitely. Strong mutual dependency has encouraged a reserve that helps to avoid ruptures in relationships.

"People in Japan try very hard to go along with the behavioral standard, and that's the biggest cause of stress here," says Dr. Junosuke Tasaki, a professor of industrial and clinical psychology

and Greenpeace began joint world-wide campaigns to try and cut off any possibility of mining or drilling.

At the elevator

Foreigners marvel at seemingly extreme but actually routine examples of self-control, such as the following: A crowd is waiting for an elevator in an office building. The elevator arrives. One man quickly steps into the car and closes the door in the faces of the others. No one utters a word or shows the slightest sign of displeasure. All stand blank-faced and await another elevator.

For the anger that Japanese hold in, psychologists say, there must eventually be outlets. For men, especially, society provides a vent in relatively unrestrained drinking bouts. At these sessions, criticisms of co-workers and even bosses who are present are permitted, indeed encouraged. Everything is supposed to be forgotten the next day.

"If you judge that one person in a dispute is good and another one bad, the one deemed bad won't be able to rejoin the group," explains Dr. Tasaki. "So Japanese don't do anything to really put down an individual. They always use a relatively mild word so they can make up in the end."

Much of the partying is paid for with company money. Hardly, Dr. Tasaki observes, this is done in the guise of entertaining business clients. "The clients are actually being used as an excuse to go boozing at company expense. Everyone understands this — that it's necessary for people to treat each other between companies and provide opportunities for blowing off steam so things will go smoothly at work."



Corinth anniversary exhibition

ESSEN (DaD) — Lovis Corinth, born in Tapiau, East Prussia, in 1858, died 60 years ago in Zandvoort, Holland. He was a strikingly original painter and the Folkwang Museum in Essen has put together a major exhibition of work from all periods of his artistic activity to mark the 60th anniversary of his death. It reaffirms more than ever his importance as a painter.

His work is the highly complex oeuvre of a passionate man who clearly delighted in the fullness of life. Yet he also regularly parted company with the conventional. Paintings such as his Birth of Venus, 1923, Skull with Oakleaves, 1921, and Covered bed, 1922, are abstract and almost ecstatic in their colouring.

Susanne Bathing, (above), 1890, by Lovis Corinth is part of the comprehensive collection of paintings on show — (Photo: DaD, Folkwang-Museum, Essen).

Randa Habits

Volts and faults

OUR electricity power is 220 volts. We all know that. I am not an expert in power, but one does not need to be an expert to realise that any change in the voltage can affect or even ruin completely a machine.

The fact is that electricity voltage in Amman is very irregular. Some new areas in Amman like Shamsani (not to confuse with Shamsani), Tla'a Al Ali or Jubelha and most of the eastern part of the city, especially Ashrafieh are suffering from voltage fluctuation.

One can easily measure this fluctuation by the use of a voltmeter. The actual voltage in many parts of Amman drops down from 220 to 180 and even to 160 volts. This also is the case in the city of Irbid and in some other parts of the country in the north and south including Aqaba in summer.

It is due to this drop in voltage that refrigerators, central heating burners, lifts motors of all kinds get damaged beyond repair. Computers lose their memory and need to be fitted with stabilisers. Television sets, air conditioners and all other electrical machines get affected one way or the other.

I understood that the reason behind that is that the initial plan of the Jordan Electricity Company did not take into consideration the growing demand for electricity.

One only hopes that the Aqaba power station, which is supposed to be operational by the end of this year, will solve part if not all of these problems.

Modern Cyprus digs for its ancient soul

By Katherine McElroy

Reuter

NICOSIA — Cyprus has been a stamping ground for foreign armies, religions and cultures for thousands of years, but now archaeologists are digging out what they say is the Mediterranean island's own, distinctive character.

Ringed by powerful states, the strategically-placed stepping stone between east and west has a long, bloody and complex past symbolised by ruins scattered along its shores.

"Cyprus friends often ask me 'who are we anyway?'" said Greek Cypriot archaeologist Paul Flourentzos.

Ancient Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Crusaders, Venetians, Ottoman Turks and Britons have all left their mark.

On the southwest coast lie remains of a city built by Greeks some 3,000 years ago. Rebuilt by the Romans, converted to Christianity and finally captured by Arabs, it lies cheek-by-jowl with ancient Neolithic and Bronze Age ruins.

Events in living memory have been no less turbulent and have simply added more layers to diverse foreign influences.

After centuries of foreign occupation and a guerrilla war against British colonial rule, Cyprus won independence in 1960.

Three years later, sectarian strife erupted between Cypriots of Greek and Turkish origin. In 1974, Turkish troops invaded and occupied the northern part of the island after a short-lived coup by the junta then ruling Greece.

The image of Cyprus as a crossroads of three continents — Africa, Asia and Europe — still persists.

For the visitor, the signs are not hard to find. Crests of defunct dynasties adorn fortifications built by other rulers, Ottoman minarets rise up from Gothic cathedrals and the British imperial emblem overlooks the presidential place even today.

Archaeologists from 12 nations held a symposium in Nicosia recently to discuss influences on the island's early culture.

Cypriot culture used to be seen merely as a diluted version of others, Stewart Swiny, director of the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute, said.

But archaeologists were now learning to define a Cypriot character, he explained. The experts say that from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age, there is a distinct quality in artistic and utilitarian objects.

Cypriot figurines often depicted a bird-faced, beak-nosed female figure with doubly or triply pierced ears. Many Cypriot pots from the early Bronze Age were decorated with clay figurines depicting rural scenes and animals.

"It looked like people were having fun doing them. This is what we mean by a playful style," Swiss archaeologist Steve Held explained.

"We're not looking for artefacts of great impact, but things made for ordinary people in their times... when you put it all together it's an artistic achievement," Australian archaeologist R.M. Merrillees says.

He described ancient and modern Cypriot expression as "whimsy" — a quality combining fantasy, humour and hospitality.

Supermarket promotes romance for lonely clerks

By Jim Abrams

The Associated Press

OSAKA — One of Japan's largest supermarket chains, responding to the plight of its young women employees in search of a mate, is trying to foster romance among its employees usually preoccupied with selling groceries.

The Nichii chain offers a service unique even in Japan, with its traditional mothering of loyal workers. The company has a matchmaking department which already has arranged 140 marriages for its employees and has ambitions of expanding its work of love.

"We want to nourish the hearts of our employees," said Harue Nishibata, director of Nichii's matchmaking club. "That's real social welfare."

Mrs. Nishibata, the widow of Nichii's founder, said the matrimonial service was inaugurated two years ago to mark the 20th anniversary of Nichii, which is Japan's fifth-largest supermarket chain with 170 stores nationwide.

Nichii's women employees were having trouble finding mates because of a scarcity of eligible men, she said. Of almost 9,000 full-time workers, the 3,400 women average 23 years of age and almost are all single. The 5,600 men are 10 years older on average and generally married.

"Young women are also in a transitional stage," she said, because of changes in Japanese traditions.

Families no longer exercise ultimate control over the choice of a husband for their daughters. But many women, as well as men, still need help in landing a partner.

The matchmaking club is located down the street from Nichii's headquarters in the western Japan metropolis of Osaka. It hosts ski tours, wine parties, leisurely boat rides, sports events and seminars, all designed to bring young people closer together.

"We want to provide more than

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — North Korea Wednesday proposed the creation of a unified North and South Korean team for the 1988 Seoul Olympics but insisted it was not giving up its demand to co-host the summer games.

Talks on a unified team for international sporting events in general have made no headway since the issue was first broached in

South Korean chief delegate Chong-Ha Kim was not immediately available for comment.

Under the North Korean proposal, revenues from worldwide television rights would also be shared. NBC has already been awarded United States rights in a deal worth at least \$300 million.

KUWAIT (R). — World hockey champions Pakistan set out Wednesday night to avenge a decisive defeat last week by arch-rivals India in Dubai in the first major international tournament in the Arabian Peninsula.

But, in its last match against India there, drawn 2-2, it had shown its potential. "We hope to maintain the same class of hockey now that we have started to com-

MOSCOW (R) — International Chess Federation (FIDE) President Florencio Campomanes pressed ahead Tuesday with preparations for a controversial world title rematch next month despite opposition from champion Garry Kasparov.

Campomanes said he would soon go to Leningrad, which along with London has bid to host the

The young Azerbaijani has also criticised the Filipino FIDE president and backs a rival group which hopes to replace him with Brazilian Lincoln Lucena at the federation's congress in Dubai next November.

NEW YORK (AP) — Mary Decker Slaney, the world's premier women's middle distance runner, said Tuesday that use of illegal drugs is track and field's most immediate pressing problem and organisation of the 1988 Seoul Olympics is the sport's most important problem of the future.

As for the 1988 Olympics, Slaney said she was concerned about the organisation for track and field after a distasteful experience last Sept. 14 at Seoul, where she com-

At Seoul, Slaney was entered in the 800 metres, and prior to the meet she said she wanted to break her American record of one minute, 56.90 seconds.

Wayne Lukas, whose horses won a record 70 stakes races in 1985, was named the outstanding trainer, while Eugene Klein and his wife were voted an award as the year's outstanding owners.

Pebbles, owned by Sheikh Mohammad Al Maktoum and trained by Clive Brittain, won four of five races last year, including the Breeders' Cup Turf on Nov. 2 when the 4-year-old Daughter of

Shoemaker, who in 1985 overtook Bill Shoemaker as racing's all-time money-winning jockey, has now won five Eclipse awards, three more than any other jockey.

March 9 in the champion's hometown of Fort Worth, Texas, promoter Bob Arum announced Tuesday.

Ro. Riguez has compiled a 20-1 record while fighting exclusively in Central and South America. He ranked first among challengers by the WBA.

The bout is scheduled for 15 rounds.


King and Butch Lewis were reported close to an agreement Tuesday on a rematch between international boxing federation heavyweight champion Michael Spinks and the man he deposed, Larry Holmes.

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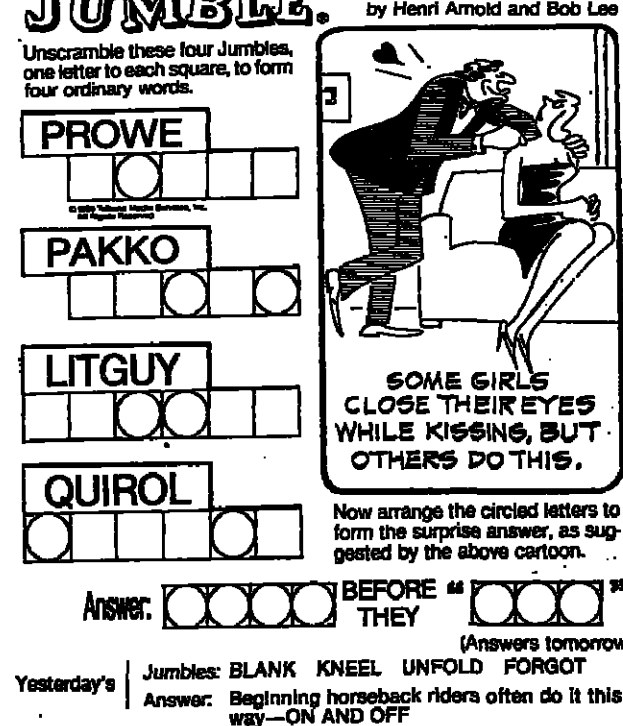
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Botha slams sanctions in meeting with U.S. team

WILDERNESS, South Africa (R) — President P.W. Botha met U.S. congressmen advocating punitive measures against South Africa Wednesday and said sanctions represented "a bad, miserable attitude on the part of the United States."

Mr. Botha conferred with the six-member delegation for 90 minutes in this Cape province seaside resort, his home town. Mr. Botha told reporters later various subjects were discussed.

"Naturally this bad idea of sanctions also was raised. I still think it's a bad, miserable attitude on the part of the United States to apply sanctions against a developing country, one of the best developing countries in Africa," he said.

The group was led by Democratic Representative William Gray, a driving force in the U.S. Congress for tough measures against Pretoria over its policy of racial discrimination, apartheid.

Sources close to the visitors said Mr. Gray had told Mr. Botha his government was expected to make significant reforms. "The message was clear: Sanctions will not be necessary if concrete measures are taken (to abolish apartheid), one source said."

The team, which arrived on Monday, was forbidden Tuesday from seeing jailed black national

Crocker in Angola

Meanwhile U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker arrived in Luanda Wednesday for talks expected to center on independence for Namibia and the possible resumption of U.S. aid to Angolan rebels.

It is the first time in a year that a senior U.S. official has visited Angola, a Marxist state with which Washington has no diplomatic ties.

Government officials said Mr. Crocker, chief architect of President Reagan's southern Africa policy, would meet Angolan Interior Minister Alexandre Rodriguez Kito and other officials in the latest round of talks on the future of South Africa-ruled Namibia (South West Africa).

The two men last met in Lusaka

in November.

South Africa, backed by Washington, is demanding that independence for Namibia be linked to withdrawal of an estimated 30,000 Cuban troops from Angola.

Angola has agreed to a partial withdrawal of the Cubans, but also demanded that South African troops leave Namibia, ruled by Pretoria in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

The officials said Angola would also raise with Mr. Crocker reports that the Reagan administration was planning to resume aid to right-wing rebels who have been fighting against the Luanda government since independence in 1975.

U.S. aid to Jonas Savimbi's UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) insurgents was suspended in the 1970s, but some members of the Republican Party have initiated moves for it to be resumed.

Mr. Savimbi is due to visit Washington soon to press for approval of the aid.

The officials said the talks would also cover a range of regional issues, including rioting by blacks in South Africa that has claimed over 1,000 lives in the past 21 months.

Indian minister arrives in Pakistan for talks

ISLAMABAD (R) — India's finance minister arrived in Pakistan Wednesday to open the first of three rounds of talks aimed at improving relations between the rival neighbors.

Vishwanath Pratap Singh will spend two days in Islamabad and one in Karachi discussing ways of increasing public sector trade, launching industrial joint ventures and improving communications.

India's foreign secretary is due on Friday for talks about the disputed Siachen Glacier and its foreign secretary arrives on Jan. 16 to resume negotiations on a peace treaty.

The meetings, the most intensive contacts in years, are also aimed at paving the way for a visit by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, due by the middle of the year.

Mr. Singh said in an interview with the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) that trade could be doubled or tripled between India and Pakistan, which have fought three wars since independence in 1947 and still keep most kinds of exchanges to a minimum.

"Things that we are buying from elsewhere we can buy from Pakistan," he told APP Tuesday. Pakistani officials said Islamabad could save considerable sums of foreign exchange and transport costs if the barriers to trade were broken down.

They said in 1983-1984, the last year for which official figures have been published, Pakistan exported 343 million rupees (\$2.1 billion) of goods to India — about the same amount it sold to China. In that financial year, it bought 147 million rupees (\$9 million) from India, roughly equivalent to its imports from Ireland.

Pakistani officials said Mr. Singh's talks with Pakistani Finance Minister Mahbubul Haq would focus on boosting trade between their large public sectors and giving a cautious start to private trade.

According to the Karachi Daily Dawn, Islamabad might be prepared to import trucks, motor scooters, televisions and wheat from India. The main barrier, Dawn said, could be politicians exploiting popular mistrust of India's intentions toward its smaller neighbor.

U.S.-Canada report calls for acid rain plan

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States government and industry have been urged to start a five-year test programme costing \$5 billion to curb acid rain, the Washington Post said Wednesday.

A joint U.S.-Canadian report to be given to President Reagan and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney Wednesday describes acid rain as an increasingly serious problem in the two countries, but does not seek specific sulphur dioxide emissions cuts, the Post said.

Citing unidentified government officials, the newspaper said the proposals, which were made jointly by Canadian and U.S. officials, call for testing new technology which would reduce an unspecified amount of emissions as a by-product.

Canada has long urged Washington to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions, which are generated mostly by coal-fired power plants and smelters and have been identified by many studies as a leading cause of acid rain and snow.

The report was prepared by former U.S. Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis and former Ontario Premier William Davis.

Punjab government, militants face showdown

NEW DELHI (R) — The government of India's Punjab state and a militant Sikh student group are heading for confrontation over a protest on Friday after fresh violence in the state.

Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala has ordered the police to take stern measures following a wave of attacks by extremists who killed seven people and wounded 18 in the last two days, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

Nearly 60 people have died since October in attacks linked to militants fighting for an independent Sikh nation in Punjab.

Mr. Barnala's orders coincided with the decision by the militant All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) to defy the government and go ahead with a road blockade on Friday to press for the release of Sikhs held on charges of violence.

PTI quoted AISSF leader Harinder Singh Kahlon as saying in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar that his group was ready to meet the state government's challenge with 300 commando squads.

The news agency said Mr. Barnala, who was asked by leaders of his moderate Akali Dal Party on Monday to deal firmly with Sikh hardliners, criticised the police and told them to produce results in the next few days.

The Akali Dal signed a pact for peace in Punjab with Prime Minister

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Churchill's nephew jailed for 3 months

LONDON (R) — The Marquess of Blandford, great-nephew of the late Sir Winston Churchill and heir to one of Britain's largest fortunes, was jailed for three months after breaking a probation order imposed for possessing heroin. The judge said Blandford, 30, who was released on bail four days ago after spending Christmas in jail facing separate cocaine charges, had been warned the slightest breach of probation would send him to prison. "Through the taking of illegal drugs, you, one of the richest and most powerful men in the land, have become a common criminal," he said when jailing the Marquess, who is the son of the Duke of Marlborough. Blandford was found to have broken several conditions of a two-year probation order imposed in April when he was convicted of heroin possession and breaking into a pharmacy in search of drugs. The probation violations included failing to report a change of address. Blandford stands to inherit a £50-million (\$70 million) fortune including Blenheim Palace, where Churchill was born.

Disinfectant said to kill AIDS virus

WASHINGTON (R) — The manufacturer of a disinfectant widely used in hospitals and by dentists to clean medical instruments has said that studies showed it was effective in killing the deadly AIDS virus. A study conducted by Bionetic Research, Inc., of Rockville, Maryland, showed that the disinfectant, called Sporidex, kills the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), said T.J. Shartner, vice president of the Sporidex Company, which manufactures the disinfectant. The AIDS virus is found in body fluids such as blood, saliva and tears and could be transmitted on medical instruments that are not properly disinfected, the firm said. Another study conducted by the Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta found that Sporidex also kills the hepatitis "B" virus and the genital Herpes virus, the company said.

Childbirth deaths decline for older women

CHICAGO (R) — The chances of women beyond the age of 35 dying in childbirth or during an abortion have been cut in half in the United States in recent years, researchers have said. The findings "should be reassuring to younger women who are considering postponement of pregnancy and to women aged 35 or older who are contemplating pregnancy," the report from a U.S. Centers for Disease Control said. The improvement probably came about because of advances in medical care and the fact that women over the age of 35 are increasingly better off financially and socially, able to afford better care and benefiting from a more educated, the study said. The findings were published in this week's journal of the American Medical Association. Women over the age of 35 still run a four times greater risk of death from a pregnancy-related reason than do younger women, the study said. But a review of death certificates found that mortality among older women in childbirth or abortion was twice as high during the period 1974-78 as in 1982.

China makes addition to export menu

PEKING (R) — China has added an ancient tonic to its menu of exports for Japanese and Hong Kong gourmets — caterpillar fungus chicken. The New China News Agency has said that the canned chicken is part of a drive to export medicinal foods. Chicken prepared with Chinese caterpillar fungus is a tonic for lung and kidney ailments, the agency said. It said China also planned to export cans of what it termed "elevated gastrodia tuber fish," but gave no other details.

Aquino family rejects Marcos charges

MANILA (R) — Philippine Presidential hopeful Corason Aquino Wednesday rejected claims by President Ferdinand Marcos that she has links with the Communist Party and said: "It boggles the imagination."

Her brother-in-law, Agapito Butz Aquino, commenting on allegations by Mr. Marcos that he was a Communist, told Reuters: "I never was, never have been and never will be a Communist ... The

man is going off his rocker."

Mr. Marcos, campaigning for re-election in the Feb. 7 vote, said at a rally Tuesday that among "Cory" Aquino's Communist backers were the militant May First Movement Labour Union and a social action group founded by Butz Aquino.

Mrs. Aquino, widow of murdered opposition leader Benigno Aquino, had challenged Mr. Marcos earlier this week to "put up or

shut up" and name names to back his allegations that she had Communist advisers and supporters.

She told reporters in the northern town of Iligan Wednesday: "It's just so illogical. First he says the Communists killed Ninoy (her husband) and now he says I am seeking their support."

"It boggles the imagination. If the Communists killed Ninoy why should I now go to them and ask for their support?"

Kremlin rejects Japan's islands claim

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet daily Pravda Wednesday rejected Japan's claim to four islands occupied by the Soviet Union in 1945.

A commentary by the Communist Party newspaper's Tokyo correspondent said Japan's claim to the southernmost islands of the Kurile chain was "unsubstantiated and unlawful."

A formal peace treaty ending World War II hostilities between Moscow and Tokyo has been del-

ayed largely because of the dispute over the islands, which Soviet forces occupied at the war's end and whose return Japan has demanded ever since.

Asian diplomats said the subject was sure to come up during a visit which Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is due to make to Japan from Jan. 15.

On Tuesday Tokyo said it would agree to resume technology exchanges with the Soviet Union

but only if Japanese were given access to their ancestors' graves on the disputed islands.

Pravda said Japanese opinion on the islands was not united.

"There is an increasingly marked striving among Japanese political and business circles to develop versatile contacts between the two countries without preliminary or subsequent conditions and to remove artificial obstacles," it said.

Top Indonesian dissident gets 10-years jail sentence

JAKARTA (R) — Retired Indonesian Gen. Hartono Dharsono was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in jail for subversion but said later he did not feel at all guilty.

The judge said Gen. Dharsono, former secretary general of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), had incited at least one Muslim radical to take part in three anti-government bombings in Jakarta in October 1984.

Gen. Dharsono, 60, was also guilty of co-producing a document with other dissidents in which they accused President Suharto of governing unconstitutionally, the judge said.

Their "white paper" contested the military's account of a bloody Muslim riot in September 1984 and called for an independent probe. The military said about 30 people were killed but Gen. Dharsono said in court that the toll was at least seven times that number.

The judge said Gen. Dharsono read the "white paper" at a meeting of young Muslims and gave a fiery speech in which he attacked Mr. Suharto's military-backed government. This had stirred up young Muslims still angered by the riot.

Gen. Dharsono, who supported Mr. Suharto's rise to power two decades ago, told the court after

the verdict was announced: "I don't feel guilty, not even a little bit."

Hundreds of Gen. Dharsono's supporters jeered the judge as he read the verdict. They also shouted "long live Dharsono." Anti-riot police stood by outside the court.

Gen. Dharsono commanded the elite Siliwangi army division in the early years of Mr. Suharto's presidency. He became a diplomat in the 1970s but was removed from his ASEAN post in 1978 after publicly criticising Mr. Suharto.

Gen. Dharsono challenged the judge to give him a maximum sentence. "I ask you to step down (as a judge) or give me the maximum sentence if I have really acted against the interest of the people as you have suggested."

Death is the maximum penalty for subversion. Gen. Dharsono's lawyers and state prosecutors, who earlier sought a 15-year jail term, both said they would appeal against the sentence.

The judge rejected Gen. Dharsono's claim that he was being tried for having a view different from the government. He was convicted because the way he expressed his opinion was unconstitutional, he said.

Soviets accuse Pakistan of killing tribesmen

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda accused Pakistan Wednesday of killing tribesmen who objected to Afghan rebels using their land as a base for incursions into Afghanistan.

"Helicopter gunships, artillery, tanks and thousands of troops are laying waste the mountain people's villages and are sealing off their territory to prevent the trapped tribes from receiving food supplies and other prime needs," Pravda said.

The daily accused the Reagan administration of conniving at the actions of Pakistani authorities.

"The U.S. administration has been frustrated by the fact that the Pashtun tribes have not allowed counter-revolutionary gangs pass through their lands and have instead identified with their Afghan brothers," it said.

Pravda said the struggle was unequal because Pakistani forces were armed with the latest U.S. weapons, whereas the tribesmen sometimes used "nothing more than the rifles which were used in the Anglo-Afghan War of 1919."

Muslim rebels have been fighting Soviet and Afghan government forces for more than six years.

Fifteen Afghans were killed and another six wounded Tuesday when their truck hit a mine outside a Pakistani village near the Afghan border, officials said Wednesday.

They said the blast occurred near Sada, a village 135 kilometres west of Peshawar along a route Afghan rebels use on their way to fight the Soviet-backed government across the nearby border.

In line with Pakistani policy of denying that the rebels operate from the border area, the officials called the Afghans refugees and did not say in which direction they were driving.

A bomb exploded in Peshawar's Khyber Bazaar Tuesday night, injuring four people and shattering windows in nearby buildings but causing no other damage, police said.

The blast occurred between two cinemas in the crowded bazaar. Police defused a bomb in another cinema three days ago and arrested an Afghan they believe was working for the Afghan secret service Khad, they said.

Meanwhile tension is rising between Afghan rebels and Pak-

istanis living in the sensitive tribal area bordering Afghanistan, with their leaders trading threats in public for the first time in years, tribesmen in Peshawar say.

Dissident Pashtun tribal chief Wali Khan Kikhal told his followers to capture Afghan rebels crossing the lawless area to mount attacks against Kabul's Soviet-backed government, they say.

His call came after Afghan rebel leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar warned Pakistanis on Saturday against blocking the guerrillas' "Jihad" (Holy War) and tauntingly reminded them that rebels had just killed four and captured 134 of the tribesmen freshly armed by Kabul.

The mutual threats raised the spectre of open clashes in the traditionally autonomous tribal area, which has become a key base area where the rebels are trained and armed. They are backed by Pakistan, the United States and China.

About three million Afghans, including rebel political parties and many guerrillas, have fled to Pakistan since the Soviet Union sent troops to Afghanistan in 1979. Most are Pashtuns like the Pakistani tribesmen and have lived peacefully in refugee camps near the border.

Pakistani Interior Minister Mohammod Aslam Khattak last month voiced Islamabad's concern at the growing tension along the border, revealing that the unruly tribes there now had about 300,000 Kalashnikov assault rifles — enough to equip an army — as well as hundreds of rockets, anti-aircraft guns and bombs.

Kukhal said in October he was stocking weapons for a showdown with the better-armed rebels whom he accused of taking over the tribal area. He issued his latest call after guerrillas ambushed and disarmed his men inside Afghanistan on Jan. 1.

The tribesmen were coming back from picking up free weapons which Kabul is distributing to get them to block guerrillas from attacking Afghanistan from the tribal area. They are now in Peshawar jail.

Kukhal was speaking at a tribal assembly in Tirah, a remote area south of the Khyber Pass where he fled early last month when troops occupied his home area around Jamrud.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin

HIGH-SPIRITED
By Mary Coo Whitton

ACROSS

- Cherry brandy
- 40 Outrigger
- 41 Ae
- 42 Deter
- 43 Males less
- 44 shallow
- 45 Pile up
- 46 Spring month
- 47 Ku Klux
- 48 Humiliated
- 49 In a way
- 50 — as a new
- 51 ph
- 52 Recedes
- 53 First duke of
- 54 Normandy
- 55 Gaudium
- 56 Obese
- 57 Peak
- 58 Charming girls
- 59 Perov's oil
- 60 Outrigger
- 61 Ae
- 62 Deter
- 63 Males less
- 64 shallow
- 65 Pile up
- 66 Spring month
- 67 Ku Klux
- 68 Humiliated
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- 72 Recedes
- 73 First duke of
- 74 Normandy
- 75 Gaudium
- 76 Obese
- 77 Peak
- 78 Charming girls
- 79 Be totally
- 80 Vicious
- 81 Certain syrup
- 82 First choice
- 83 Vigils or
- 84 Tag
- 85 N.M. people
- 86 Morning-after
- 87 Snatch
- 88 Lumber's land
- 89 Lumber's land
- 90 — as a new
- 91 ph
- 92 Recedes
- 93 First duke of
- 94 Normandy
- 95 Gaudium
- 96 Obese
- 97 Peak
- 98 Charming girls
- 99 Study place
- 100 Comic "teller"
- 101 Usual customs
- 102 Pass by
- 103 Author's hand
- 104 Having a
- 105 sword
- 106 Oriental nanny
- 107 Droll loan
- 108 metaphor
- 109 Desert hares
- 110 Brood of old
- 111 Rite
- 112 Belg. river
- 113 Novel "Adam"
- 114 Pleasing
- 115 High stuff
- 116 Active Mary
- 117 Solitary lay
- 118 Lumber's widow
- 119 Measure
- 120 Taylor or
- 121 Denison
- 122 Denison

DOWN

- 1 Cherry brandy
- 2 Dander
- 3 Female ruff
- 4 Ae
- 5 Family group
- 6 Mrs. Van Buren
- 7 Impoverish
- 8 Alfonso's
- 9 Whorewhore
- 10 Whorewhore
- 11 Whorewhore
- 12 Whorewhore
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Diagramless

ACROSS

- 1 Kind of ton or serpent
- 2 Flap
- 3 Haste
- 4 Final result
- 5 Rubuke
- 6 Polish shade
- 7 — Lisa
- 8 Body part
- 9 Waterfowl
- 10 Khayyam or Bradley
- 11 Range
- 12 Habitual for
- 13 — Get a
- 14 Secret
- 15 Of the kidneys
- 16 Same official
- 17 Concentrated
- 18 — Lisa
- 19 Body part
- 20 Waterfowl
- 21 Khayyam or Bradley
- 22 Range
- 23 Irrational
- 24 Place for a
- 25 Grandsons
- 26 Land
- 27 Bring into
- 28 — Lisa
- 29 Body part
- 30 Waterfowl
- 31 Khayyam or Bradley
- 32 Range
- 33 Humorous
- 34 Bookend
- 35 A grapefruit
- 36 Plant juice
- 37 Fine line
- 38 Skull cavity
- 39 Copyists
- 40 Active summer
- 41 Spud
- 42 Tumbler rule
- 43 Flecky bird
- 44 Spew's cousin
- 45 — for
- 46 Time of
- 47 fasting
- 48 News
- 49 Agreement
- 50 Nursery-rhyme
- 51 Jack
- 52 Bleck
- 53 Sep. statement

DOWN

- 1 Ovoid
- 2 Go wrong
- 3 Redundant
- 4 Mountain lake
- 5 One
- 6 (swig)
- 7 Checked one
- 8 Paper
- 9 Hume
- 10 Woodard
- 11 Tragic lower
- 12 Son of Isaac
- 13 Gathering of
- 14 Furrymen's
- 15 A number
- 16 Put on the
- 17 — Get a
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19 X 17, by James Barrick

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